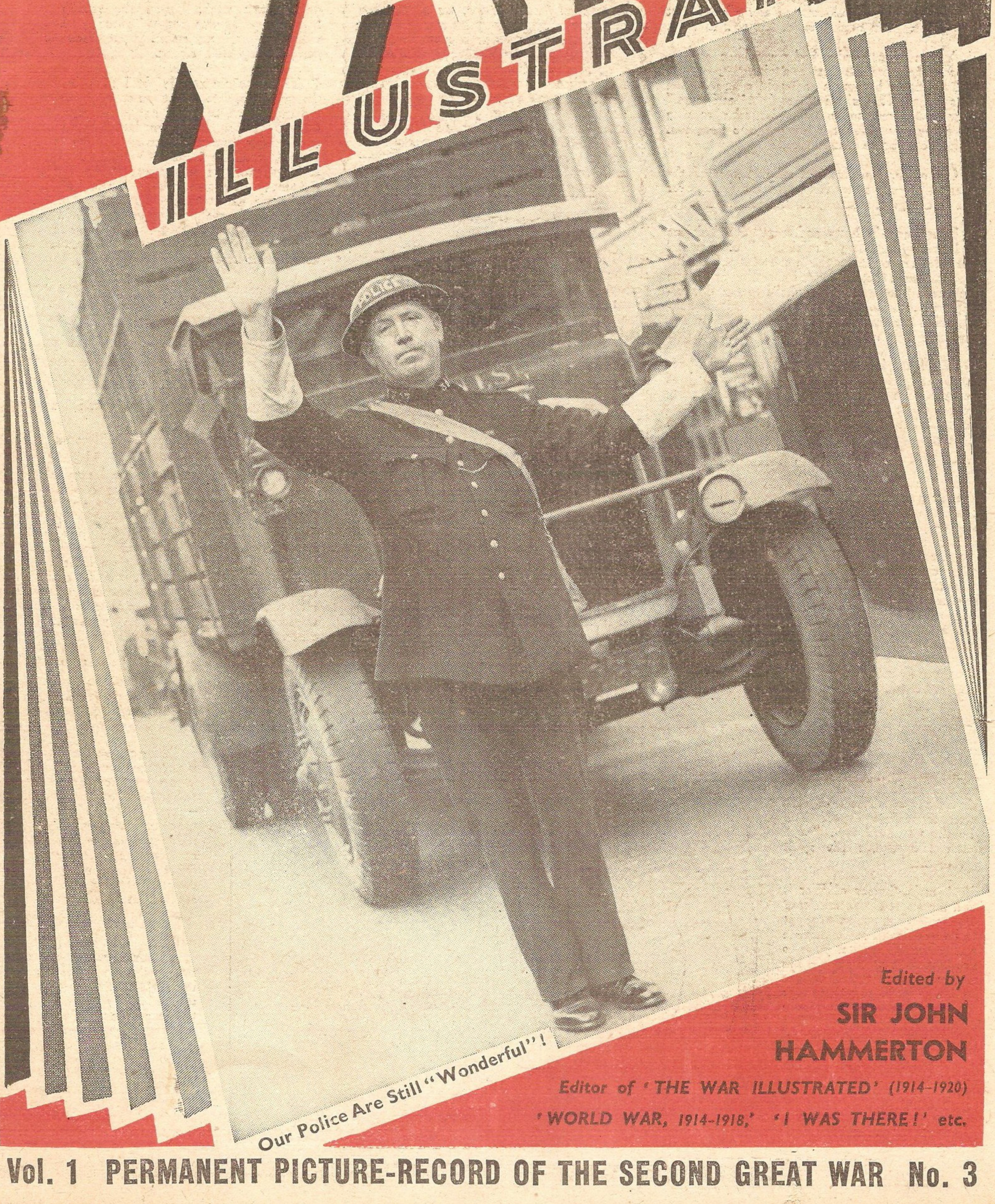
'The War Illustrated,' Week Ending September 30th, 1939

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

**SPECIAL GIFT MAPS OF THE WAR AREAS EAST AND WEST**

# THE WAR ILLUSTRATED

3d Weekly



Our Police Are Still "Wonderful"!

Edited by

**SIR JOHN HAMMERTON**

*Editor of 'THE WAR ILLUSTRATED' (1914–1920)*

*'WORLD WAR, 1914–1918,' 'I WAS THERE!' etc.*

**Vol. 1 PERMANENT PICTURE-RECORD OF THE SECOND GREAT WAR No. 3**

# Jottings from My Wartime Diary

BY THE EDITOR

ONE of the minor horrors of war is that it provides the lesser gifted members of the community with the chance of jumping into positions of official importance. In the social confusion that ensues the less successful in the professions somehow contrive to push themselves into official jobs, and armed with a little brief authority, to lord it over their abler fellows who have "made good" in the honest competition of peaceful time. I saw a lot of that in 1914–18. I'm hoping to see less of it in 1939.

✲ A man I knew who had never been able to do more than scrabble along as a fairly good literary hack suddenly became a well-paid official of the Censorship in 1914 with a staff of eight "assistants." After 1918 he reverted to the harder task of earning his living and died not long ago a forgotten denizen of modern Grub Street.

✲ One of our most brilliant sailor heroes of the Great War—his name is famous the world over—is in charge of sandbags for London shelters.

✲ There must be hasty and regrettable decisions in hurriedly selecting "ministries" of this and that, which accounts for the "not-to-be-published" rubber stamps that disfigure interesting and quite innocuous photographs submitted to the Censorship and returned after two days of earnest consideration by persons whose real walk in life may have been far removed from their new duties.

✲ Which reminds me that another friend of my youth had a big job in the Censorship of 1914 for which he had qualified by years of writing football notes in a Scottish sporting paper. I trust his kind have applied in vain to Vice-Admiral Usborne.

✲ Yesterday I saw fifteen photographs of which, to my knowledge, six or seven appeared in widely circulated journals this week, returned by the Censor disfigured with the aforesaid rubber stamp—photographs that would have cheered British readers to contemplate as reminders of the strength of their Navy, the Navy which is their own peculiar property, but which some automatic official acting on his printed "Secret" instructions, had condemned. The futility of it! The photos in question exist in thousands of copies in Germany and have long been in the hands of every Nazi spy in the British Isles, but they are not to be seen by my readers . . . A week later, on further consideration they were released!

✲ For Vice-Admiral Usborne, who is chief of the Censorship, thereby depriving the Navy of a most able officer, I have a deep respect—indeed, a genuine admiration—but he must take the kicks to which his numerous amateur juniors expose him. To them I would say: "The letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life."

✲ A major horror of War is that the worst characteristics of the aggressive nation are apt to be transferred to the defence and to survive in after years to the detriment of the social life of the nation that had fought to defend itself from these very evils. Think of the "emergency measures" of 1914–18 that lingered twenty years later in honest traders being fined for selling chocolates after a certain hour in a free country!

✲ Every War brings up a new crop of officials who will cling to office when the need for them has disappeared. Every successful "fight for freedom"

*IN War all things change "in the twinkling of an eye." Where was plenty now is paucity! Especially with material supplies. While hoping to continue* THE WAR ILLUSTRATED *in its present form and bulk until Hitlerism has been extirpated from Europe, we envisage a shortage of paper supplies and probably increasing costs. But our readers can help us greatly by placing a firm order with their bookseller or newsagent for the regular weekly delivery of* THE WAR ILLUSTRATED. *This eliminates the waste arising from fluctuating sales and enables our publishers to provide the limit of value on an economic basis. Please help our publishers—and incidentally yourself—by giving an order for regular delivery.*

would seem only to restrict the personal liberties of the winners. But all of us who stand for personal freedom in a free state will rightly resent the growth of departmental dictatorship, even while they admit that "where Justice rules 'tis Freedom to obey." Let's first be dead sure of the Justice!

✲ Last night I heard an estimate of twenty years as the probable duration of the war. This from a student of world affairs who writes articles in the "heavy" reviews. I'll wager quite a lot that he is wrong by some years!

✲ One of the most fortunate things that have occurred in our home politics is the abstention of the Labour Party from office. Mr. Arthur Greenwood was a tower of strength to the cause of common sense in the House on September 13 when he so brilliantly championed the rational freedom of the Press. The Mother of Parliaments was vindicated thereby. Utterly apart from any partisanship, I think we can keep our eye on Arthur Greenwood.

✲ On one of my visits to the Front in 1917 I travelled to Boulogne in a destroyer with an extremely young officer, who had acquired a red band to his cap. "In my opinion," said he, "there should not be a single journalist or photographer allowed to set foot in France. You fellows are a curse and a hindrance to us who are fighting your battles." As he spent the remainder of the journey in copious contributions to the rather choppy Channel, I was unable to pursue the alluring discussion he had started. But when Lord Camrose, in the House of Lords on Thursday, of last week, likened the results of the Ministry of Information to "running a battleship with soldiers," my mind went back to that perky young staff officer.

✲ The Government did right, I think, in imposing the most complete restriction straight away—even the excessive black-out. For it is easier to relax than to increase. To have begun in a piecemeal way, adding new restriction regulations every day or two, would have led to greater dissatisfaction and irritation. The joy of getting our gloom lightened by the wise modification of the black-out as regards motor traffic and the use of torches made a welcome change on the night life of London of which I have had evidence tonight—also the partial re-opening of theatres and cinemas in the West End and the suburbs.

✲ How admirably Mr. John Gielgud put it when he was to appear again at Golders Green in "The Importance of Being Earnest": "We are all delighted to be back at work," said he, "but it won't last long for some of us. Jack Hawkins and I are waiting to be called up, and many more actors are in our position. But the theatre will go on somehow throughout the war." That's most comforting, don't you think? After all, which of us is indispensable?

Thank Heav'n the Stage will still go on
Although bereft of Jack and John!

✲ An eminent officer to whom I recalled today the celebrated case of the Censor who, in the Great War, returned an article by a well-known journalist in which the line from Kipling's "Recessional," "the captains and the kings depart," was quoted, with "captains" and "kings" blacked out, assured me that he himself might have been inclined to make these cuts in accordance with the instructions that no mention of the movements of military officers or royal personages were to appear. And he is a very able and gifted officer, let me say. Well, well!

✲ "Fish friers hit by Black-Out" I read in an evening paper. But we've other fish to fry in these days.

✲ "No profiteering this time!" is a brave, vain cry. In the Great War we saw certain classes, or rather numerous fellow-citizens—for all "classes" profiteered to the limit of possibility—grow rich from selling goods at unconscionable prices simply because of their rarity or the difficulty of transport. We shall see the same again . . . are seeing it now.

✲ But increase of prices is not only inevitable, it is reasonable. When supplies are unlimited any increase of price to the purchaser is stark profiteering, but where supplies are restricted and diminishing, some compensation to the seller for inability to re-stock is only fair. After all, if diamonds were as common as coal they would not command fancy prices. But I do feel that our rulers are going after the profiteer today more vigorously than in 1914-18.

**LONDON. She's getting rather stand-offish. Every time I pass her she's got her nose in the air!**—*"Ecco," Milan.*

The WAR ILLUSTRATED

Vol. 1 A Permanent Picture Record of the Second Great War No. 3

**Already it is clear that the pilots of the Royal Air Force in 1939 are imbued with the same indomitable spirit as the young men whose gallant deeds between 1914 and 1918 have written an imperishable page in the annals of British heroism. Moreover, the Air Force today has aeroplanes of unrivalled quality. Here we see, high above the clouds, three of its crack machines. Supermarine Spitfires, they can climb to a height of 11,000 feet in 4·8 minutes, and their speed of 362 miles per hour makes them the fastest machines in the world.**

*R.A.F. Official Photograph, Crown Copyright Reserved*

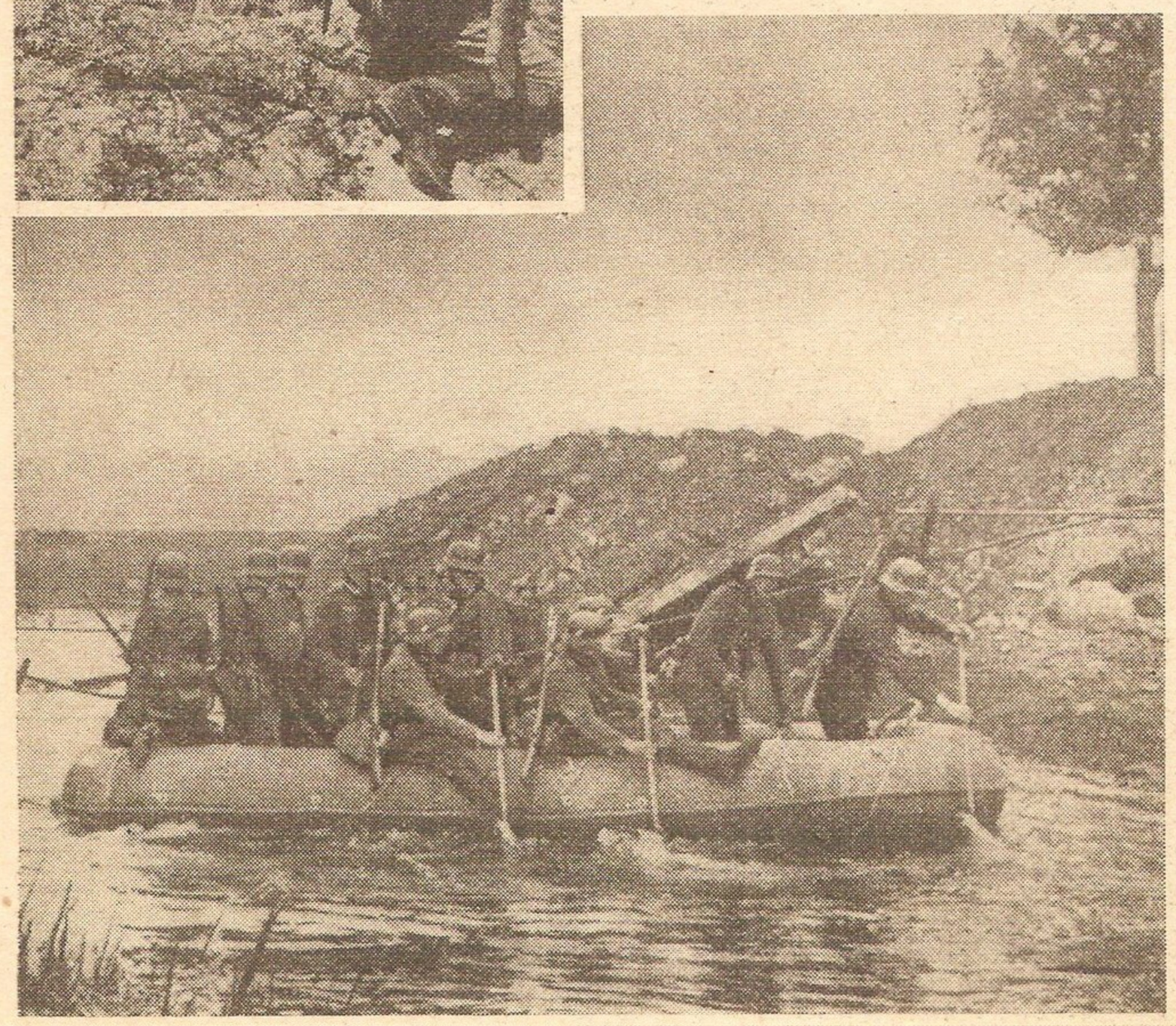
# Poland's Stand for Freedom:

Here we tell the story of the brutal invasion of Western and Southern Poland during the second week of the war. It was supported without ruth or scruple by at least 80 per cent of the world's strongest single air force and three-quarters of the Nazi land forces. The Russian invasion on September 17 brought the campaign to an effective close.

TEN days after the opening of the War, practically the whole of Poland lying to the west of Warsaw was in the hands of the Nazi invaders. The Polish Corridor, the western plains, and the "industrial triangle" of Polish Silesia and Cracow had all been overrun, and in the south the German divisions were pressing on towards Lwow with a view to seizing the oilfield on the Carpathian slopes and cutting Poland's communications with Rumania. To the west of Warsaw, however, there still existed a considerable salient held by the Polish army entrusted with the defence of the capital.

According to all reports, the German general staff had expected that the advance to the gates of Warsaw would take four weeks. That their progress was far more rapid is due in the first place to the fine weather, and secondly to the German army's mechanized forces. Along the roads and lanes and even across the open country the armoured cars and tanks were able to make quite good going. The retreating defenders were given no rest. Harried out of one line of defence, they were pursued and often outflanked before they had time to consolidate themselves in fresh positions.

Furthermore, the German High Command flung against the Poles practically the whole weight of their air force. At first they made a pretence of not bombing open towns but only places of military importance, such as entrenchments, munition dumps, railway stations, and the like. As the struggle increased in intensity, however, and the Poles, while retreating, refused to surrender, the German airmen did not hesitate to drop their bombs on places which were not militarily defended. In a communiqué issued by the Polish Embassy in London, it was announced that even at the very commencement of the war, Warsaw, Bialystok, Bydgoszcz, Czestochowa, Gdynia, Grudziadz, Poznan, Tomaszow, Torun, Wilno, and many other open towns had all been bombed by the German air force, and that on September 11 the Germans began the methodical bombing of open towns far removed from the battle zone, employing this barbarous



**Top left, Polish troops are seen in a trench watching a tank that has been in contact with the enemy. In the centre photograph German troops are crossing a river in a collapsible leather raft. In the photograph immediately above German troops are laboriously ferrying their transport across the Vistula, the Poles having destroyed all the bridges before taking up new positions.**

*Photos, Wide World and Planet News*

# Her Fight for Existence Against Fearful Odds

method of warfare with a view to paralysing the very life of the country.

Nevertheless, the Polish army, though it was in retreat, was still intact and as yet not demoralized. Again and again the Poles turned upon the invaders and drove them back despite the heavy shelling and bombing that they were compelled to endure with little chance of making any effective reply. It was well understood that the Polish High Command had long realized that it would be impossible to make any really effective stand against a German army equipped with all the very latest machinery of warfare in the open plains of Western Poland. All that they could hope to do would be to withdraw their forces as slowly and in as orderly a fashion as possible to lines already prepared beyond the Vistula. This they succeeded in doing, though with heavy loss and some disorganization. And however necessary the retreat may have appeared to those in charge of Poland's destiny, the Polish population were

**The gallant Polish machine-gunner seen in the top photograph is typical of the fine young manhood that fills the Polish Army. Below, is a German anti-tank gun in position during the street fighting that preceded the occupation of Bydgoszcz (Bromberg) on September 5.**

*Photos, Associated Press and Planet News*

stunned by the rapidity and extent of the disaster which had come upon them. As the invaders clattered through their towns and villages they retired to their houses, bolting the doors and shuttering the windows. With hate burning in their eyes they watched them pass, and they cursed them with the heaviest curses known to their vocabulary. Small wonder that some snatched up their ancient guns from the chimney-corner and as francs-tireurs played their part against the merciless aggressor who was sweeping through their country with fire and sword.

Back, then, went the Poles, resisting still with dogged bravery, but wellnigh overwhelmed by the weight of men and armament ranged against them. Arrived on the traditional line of defence on the country's great rivers, the defending army rallied and dug itself in. Attacks by the Germans were fiercely repulsed, and, moreover, the Polish forces in the salient before Warsaw were reported to have escaped from the German pincers and rejoined the main army on the Vistula.

For a day or two the situation seemed to have taken a definite turn for the better. Warsaw breathed again as the Nazi troops who had penetrated to the suburbs were ejected and pushed back several miles. But held as they were before the capital, the Germans developed

# Poland is Stabbed in the Back by Russia

**The sad plight which came to the people of Northern France and Belgium in 1914 has now come to the people of Poland. Above, a family driven from their home are setting forth to seek safety; the car camouflaged with tree branches that they are passing belongs to the ruthless invaders. In the first weeks of the war a great host of peasants were dispossessed of their all and forced into the wilderness, hungry and homeless.**

*Photo, Planet News*

a further thrust from the north-east which very shortly carried their outposts across the river Bug. Surrounded already on three sides, Warsaw was now threatened from the east, and such was the weight of the Nazi numbers, such the quantity of their mechanized forces, such the preponderance of their airmen, that the Polish line along the Vistula and the Bug began to give way.

Then it was that the Polish front disintegrated. The orderly retreat became a rout. The line of battle developed into a confused medley of raids and skirmishes as the German motorized columns pushed far ahead of their infantry and penetrated to near Bresc Litewski (Brest Litovsk), Przemysl, and Lwow (Lemberg).

Mown down by the fire of the tanks, machine-gunned from the air, even the smallest concentration of Polish troops was spotted by the Nazi 'planes and blown to pieces or dispersed. The Poles resisted with fierce courage, but their tanks and artillery were all out of action, their aerodromes bombed into nothingness, their aeroplanes shot down or immobilized for want of petrol. Wireless communication, too, had broken down, with the result that the Polish High Command was out of touch with much of the battle-front. Time after time it moved its location, only to be mercilessly chased and bombed afresh.

So the struggle developed until a fortnight after the war began Poland was practically overrun by the enemy, Warsaw was on the verge of surrender to escape the bombardment with which it was threatened, and the frontier with Rumania was practically closed by the German flying columns. This was the moment chosen by Soviet Russia to order her troops to cross the frontier and take what was left of the Polish armies in the rear.

On the morning of Sunday, September 17, the vanguard of the "Workers' and Peasants' Red Army" invaded Poland at a number of points between Latvia and Rumania. Local forces of Poles tried to stem their onset, but the invaders were in such overwhelming numbers that at midnight the first Soviet communiqué announced that the Russian army had advanced more than 30 miles into Poland and had occupied, with but little fighting, a number of towns. This stab in the back completely put the finishing touches to Poland's military collapse.

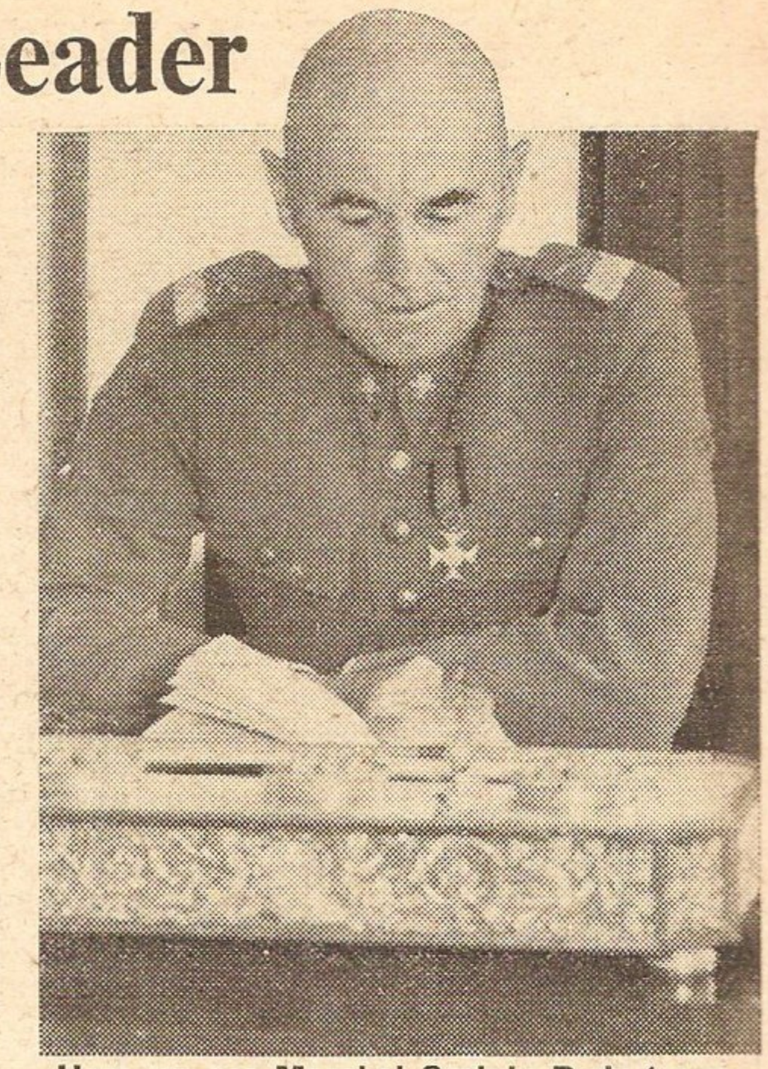
**This map above shows the progress made by the German army between September 8 and 18. The broken line is the front at the earlier date, and the dotted line that ten days later.**

# Marshal Smigly Rydz–Poland's Leader

Poland's captain in her heroic fight against Nazi aggression is a man who already on many a hard-fought field has shown his mettle as the commander of men.

"If anything should happen to me," old Marshal Pilsudski, father of modern Poland, told President Moscicki, "Rydz will replace me in the army." A year later Pilsudski was dead, and within a few hours of his passing the President appointed General Smigly Rydz Inspector-General, in other words, the Commander-in-Chief of the Polish army. That was on May 12, 1935, and the four years which have since elapsed did much to strengthen still further the ties binding the Marshal and the people whom he leads.

Edward Rydz was born at Brzezany in south-east Poland in 1886, and in his youth he was an art student at Cracow; in that city's art gallery hangs a picture of our Houses of Parliament which he painted from the Embankment. Ere long, however, he was drawn into politics, and became an ardent disciple of Joseph Pilsudski. He was one of the first to join Pilsudski's semi-military organization, and during the Great War he played a distinguished part as an officer in the Polish legion. A colonel in 1916, in the following year he was appointed by Pilsudski to command the army which was being formed in secret ready for the day when Poland would be able to strike a blow for her own independence. When Pilsudski was imprisoned Rydz carried on, and after the Armistice, when Poland was in a state of indescribable chaos as a result of the withdrawal of the alien armies which for years had been battling on her soil, it was entirely due to Rydz and his Polish military organization that order was re-established and the foreign invaders were repatriated. When, on November 10, 1918, Pilsudski returned in triumph to Warsaw, his first act was to make Rydz a general.



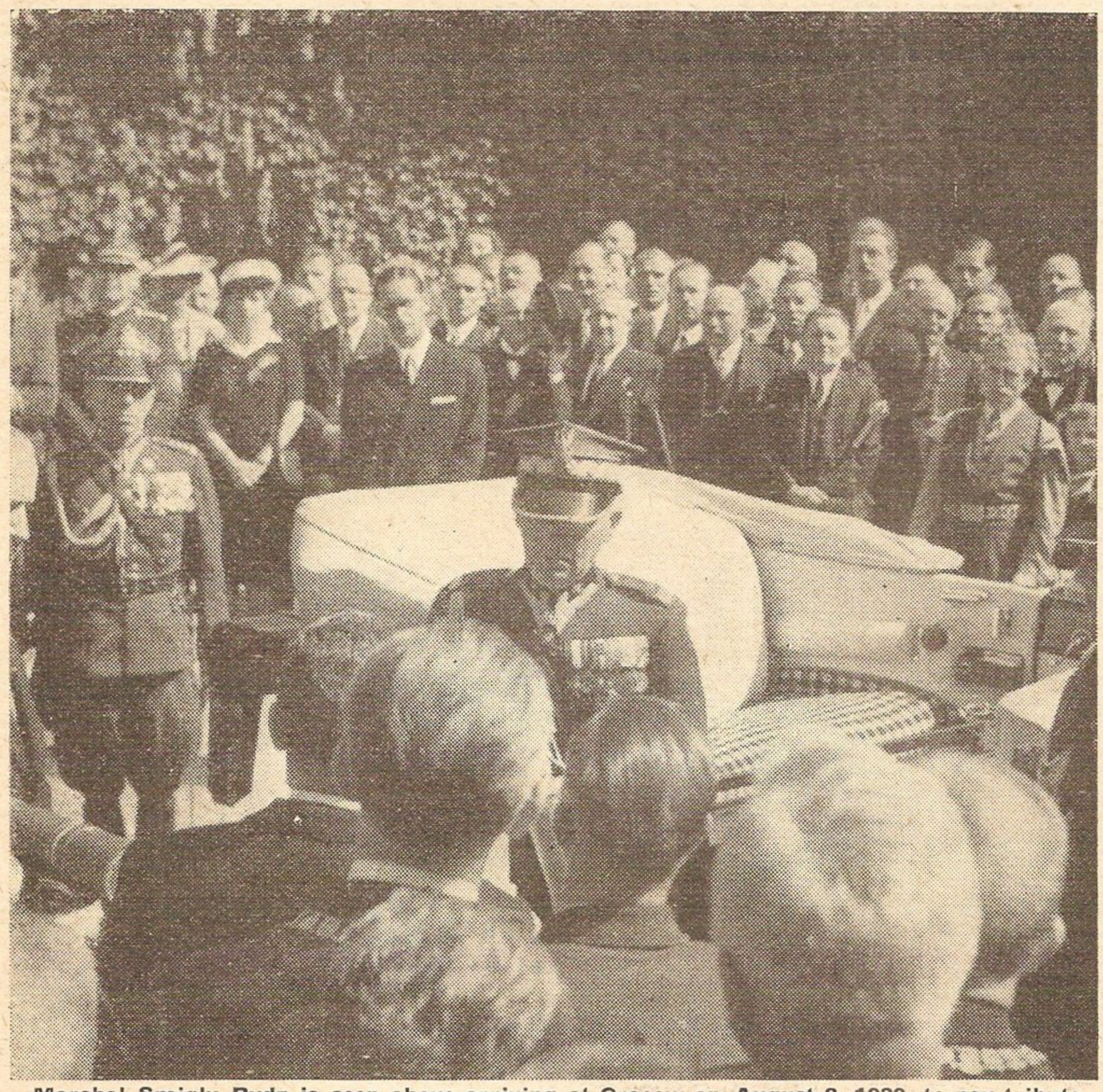
**Here we see Marshal Smigly Rydz transacting State business at his desk in his home.**

*Photo, Keystone*

### Defeating the Bolsheviks

In 1919 General Rydz lead the Polish army which saved the independence of Latvia and freed Wilno from the Russians. During the war with the Soviets General Rydz commanded the Polish army which swept through the Ukraine and captured Kiev, and when, in 1920, the tide turned and the Russians invaded Poland, it was Rydz who defeated the attack of Budienny's cavalry at Lwow. In August of that fateful year, when the Russians were at the very gates of Warsaw and it seemed as if Europe were about to be submerged beneath a wave of Bolshevism, it was Rydz who led the centre of the Polish army to complete victory. In the last battle of the war, fought on the Niemen shortly afterwards, Smigly Rydz was again the commander of the triumphant Poles.

After the war with Russia Rydz co-operated whole-heartedly with Pilsudski. in the rebuilding of the Polish state, and on the Marshal's death he was appointed a marshal and designated the first person in Poland next to the President. His position as head of the army—that army to which Poland's independence is due and by which it has always been maintained—makes him in effect the leader of his country.



**Marshal Smigly Rydz is seen above arriving at Cracow on August 8, 1939, to pay tribute to another famous hero in Poland's long struggle for freedom, Marshal Pilsudski. On that day 25 years ago Pilsudski marched into Cracow at the head of his Polish legionaries.**

*Photo, Keystone*

### Trust in the Army

His belief in the necessity for a strong army is grounded in a study of his country's history as well as in the grim experience of today. "Poland's pathway has not been strewn with roses," he said once. "Although we honestly desire to live with the whole world in peace and concord, we remember the bitter past which proved that the fate of nations is decided by war. . . . In order to be able to devote oneself to art and learning, to cultivate civic and social virtues, to spend the Christmas holiday in pious repose, to muse how to build best our State and apply the wisest means towards that end —a strong and valiant army is necessary."

"In his company," said Pilsudski once of Smigly Rydz, "I always felt the atmosphere of calm and security." Never had the Polish people so needed a man of this character as in those early days of September 1939, when Poland was submerged by the full tide of Nazi aggression.

# Warsaw Was in the Front Line of Fighting

JUST as the Nazi attack on Poland was launched, Herr Hitler declared that he had given orders that his air force should restrict itself to attacks on military objectives. The war was not many hours old, however, before many a Polish city was being subjected to a hail of bomb and shell, and little more than a week had passed when the German High Command blandly stated that, with a view to crushing the obstinate civilian resistance, open towns and villages would henceforth be bombarded without further scruples. Thus, on land as on sea, there was launched by the Nazis a campaign of unrestricted "frightfulness" which rivalled in all its horror the worst features of the Great War that ended in 1918. In one respect, indeed, the present struggle is far worse for indiscriminate air bombing such as has been used in Poland has brought the whole civilian populace into the front line.

**Among the buildings in Warsaw reported damaged by Nazi bombs was Belvedere, the former residence of Marshal Pilsudski.**

**Time and again Warsaw has been bombed by Nazi raiders. Above is the damage done by one German bomb in the heart of the city. While some of the citizens were engaged in clearing away the debris others marched to the outskirts to dig trenches (top, bottom right).**

*Photos: Sport and General, Associated Press and Planet News.*

# When the Poles Still Held their Capital

**Though the Polish army was not so fully mechanized as the German, it had tanks and armoured cars of first-class workmanship which were handled by the soldiers with the greatest skill and daring. Above, a number of small armoured cars are seen passing through the outskirts of Warsaw on their way to meet the enemy. Such little machines are valuable for reconnaissance work and in establishing contacts.**

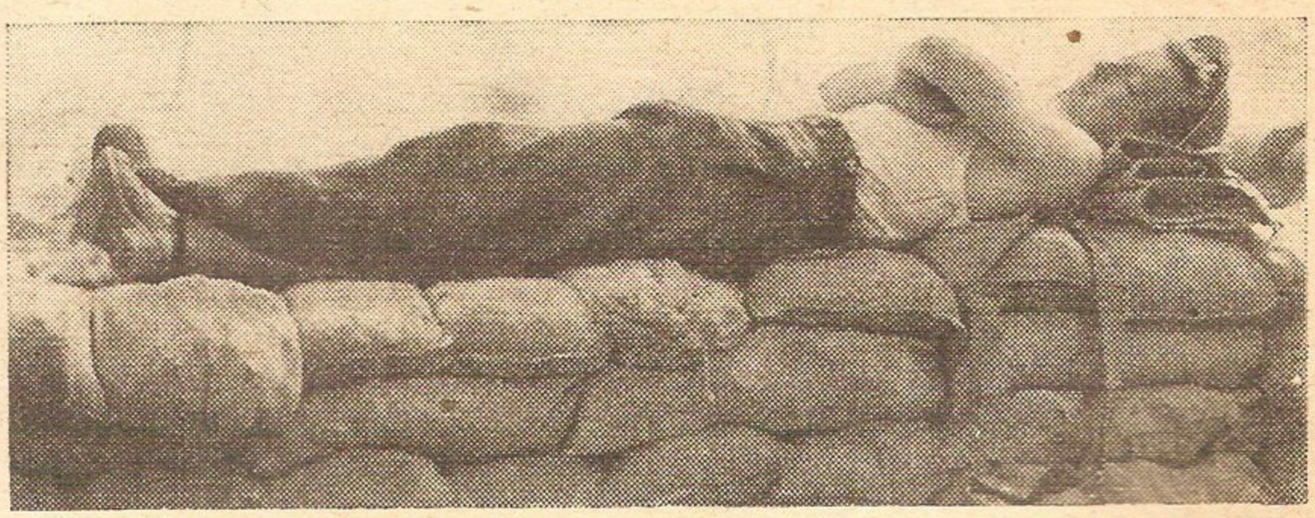
*Photo, Planet News*

# Young Britain Puts on Khaki

Wartime troops have come to a halt in a street in the City of London, watched with admiration and perhaps envy by those who are still in "civvies."

Somewhere in England Miss Frances Day gave a much appreciated entertainment to the troops, and then witnessed an entirely unmilitary "march past" of fatigue parties.

The young soldiers of 1939, like those of 1914–18, show their cheerful spirit in community singing. These lads, on a route march, have plenty of breath left for a sing-song.

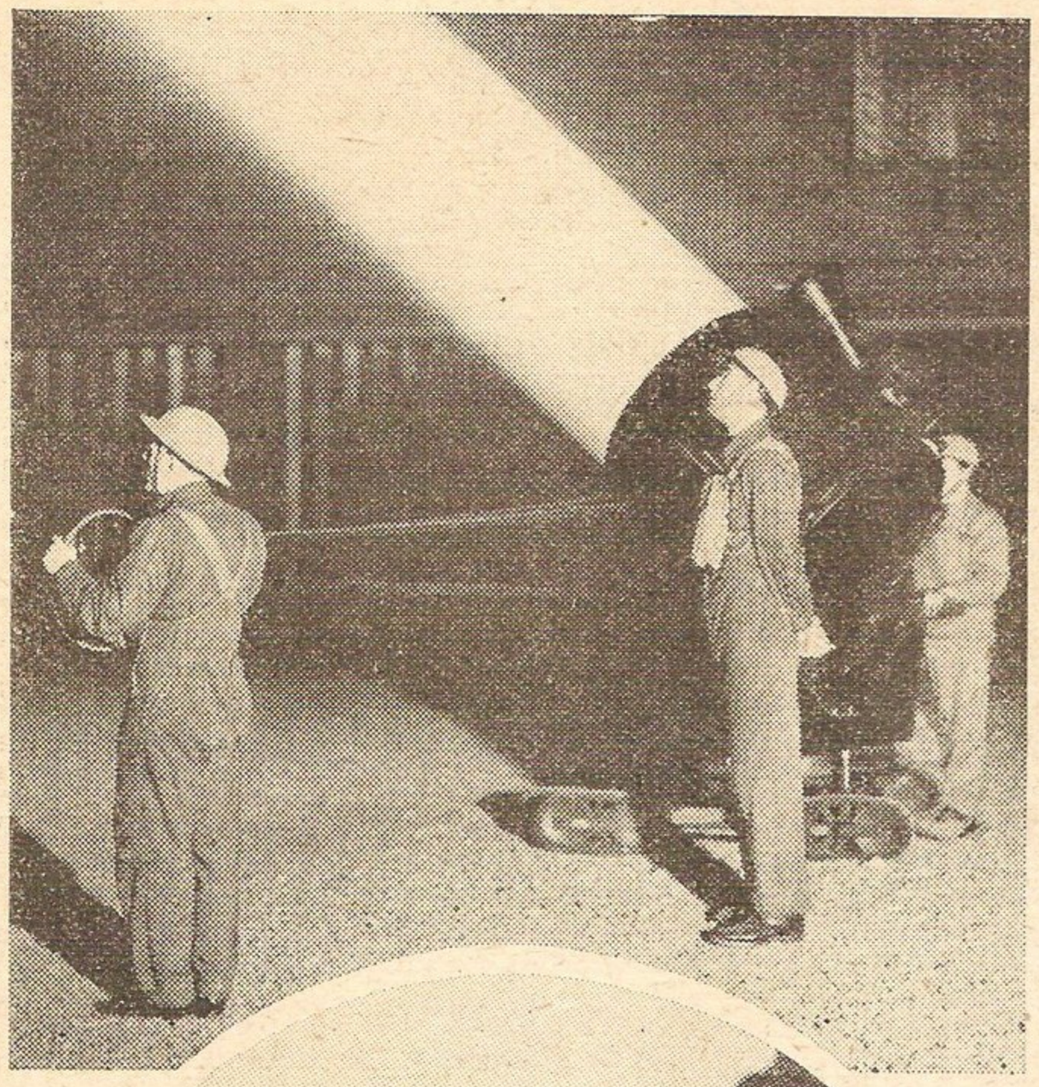


The soldiers of the 1939 Army want to be smart, but the proper adjustment of their equipment requires some skill. Above, left, a new recruit is being shown just how it should all be done. There are peaceful hours even in wartime and, right, a member of an anti-aircraft battery in Kent takes "forty winks" and forgets Hitler.

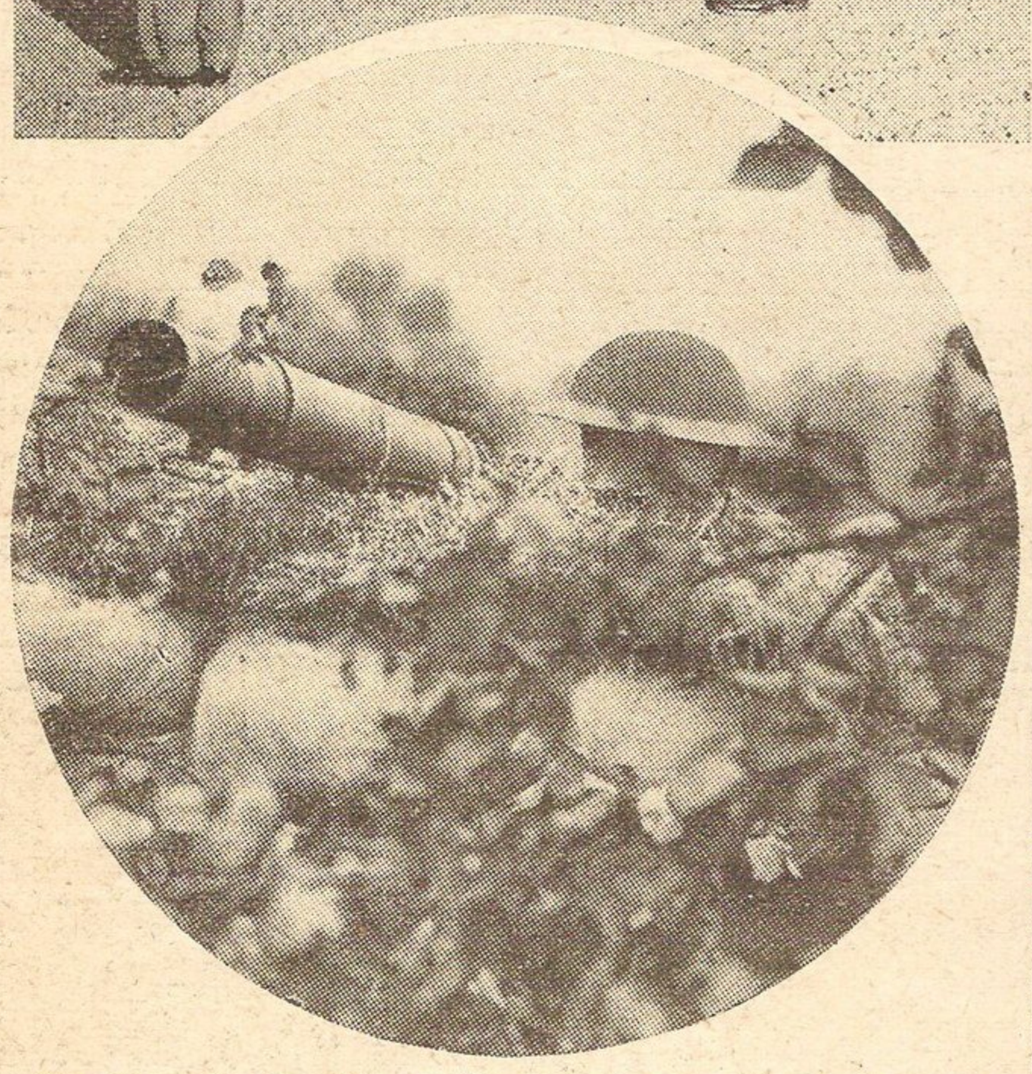
*Photos, Central Press, Keystone, Planet News and Fox*

# 'Somewhere in England'

# They Were at War



Men from an anti-aircraft battery somewhere in Kent are blackberrying on a neighbouring common, and find the early rain and late sun have provided an excellent crop.

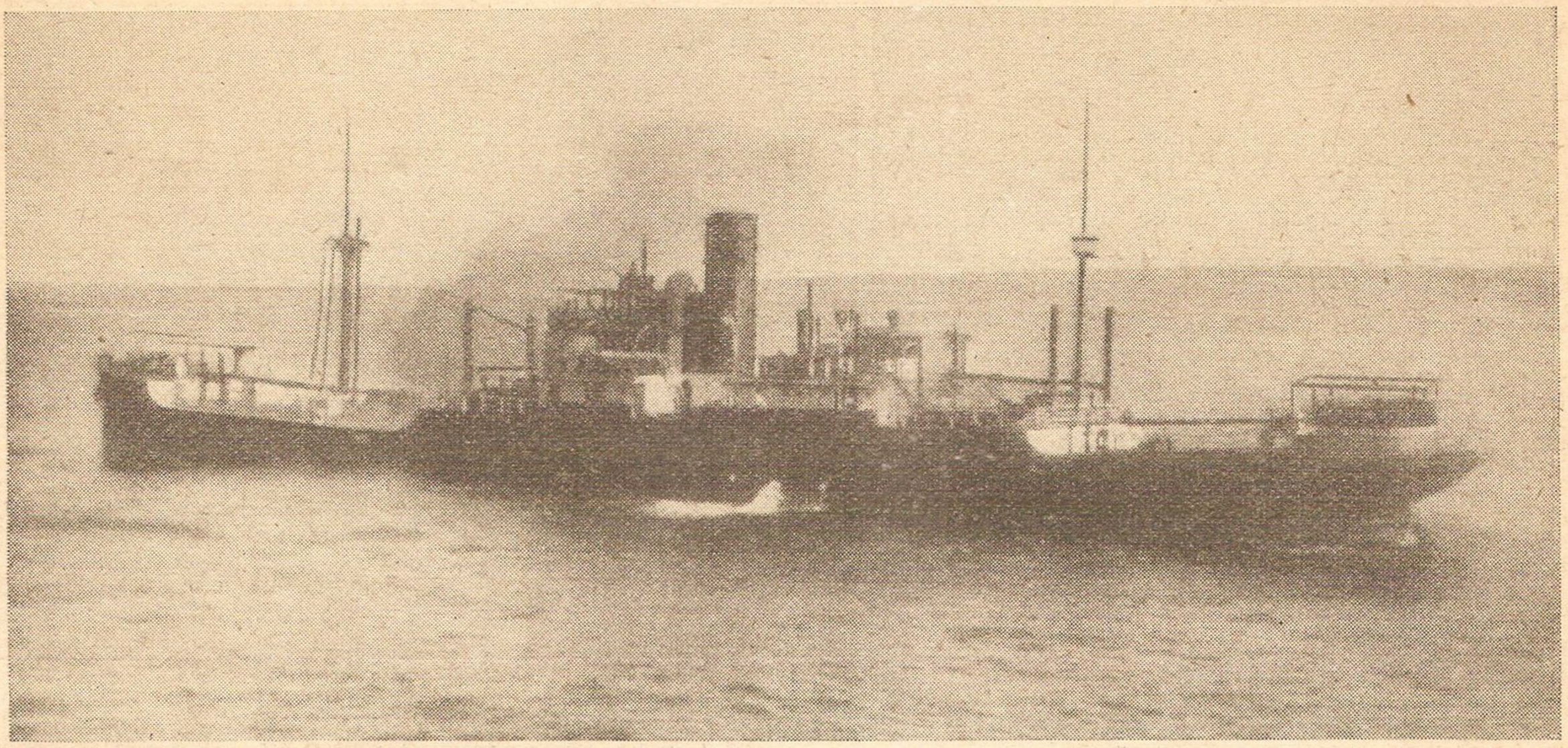


Top, an anti-aircraft searchlight in London illuminating the sky. In that immediately above a camouflaged anti-aircraft gun, also "somewhere in London," is seen.

London is ringed by anti-aircraft batteries manned in many cases by young Territorials who have learnt in their spare time to serve their country in war. In the photograph centre right signallers of an anti-aircraft battery are operating a telephone at night. In daytime, as the photograph immediately above shows, a football makes the young troops happy.

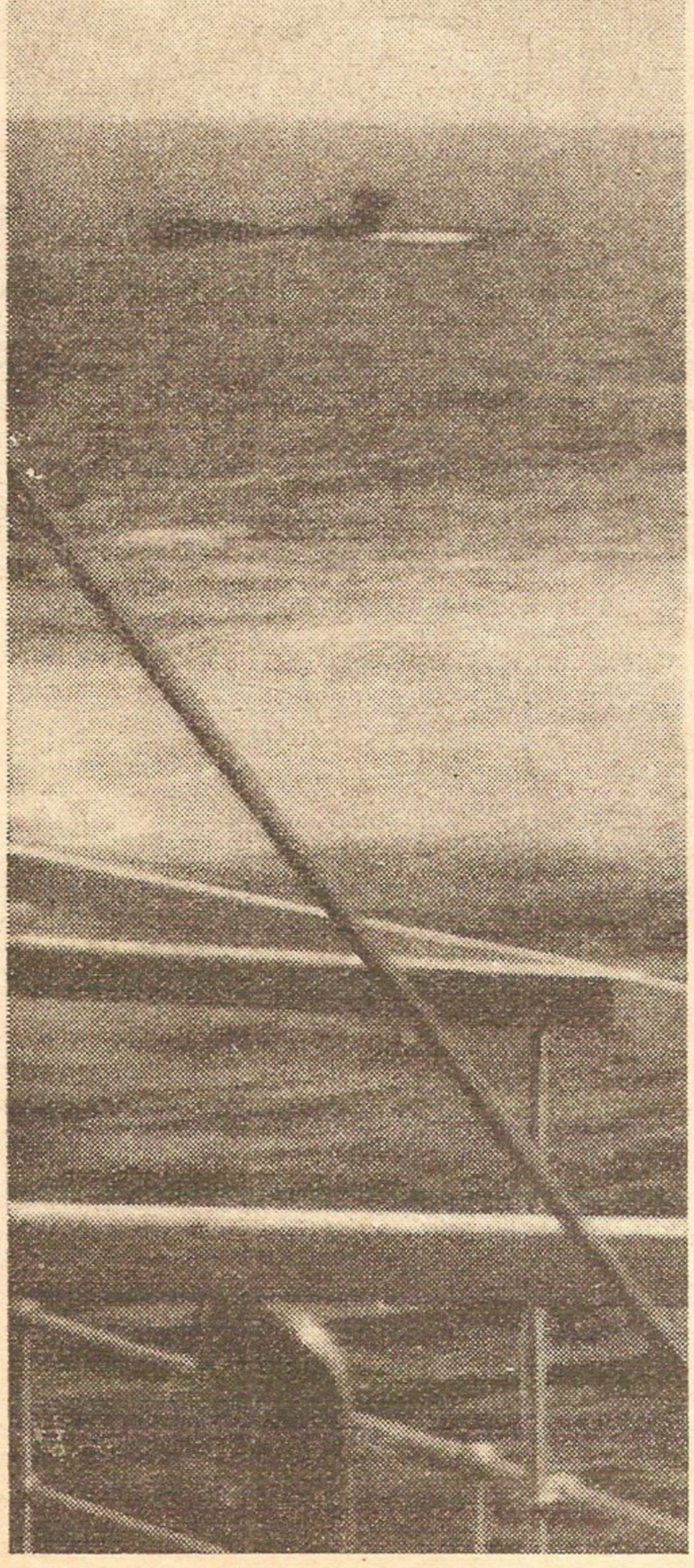
*Photos, Wide World and Central Press*

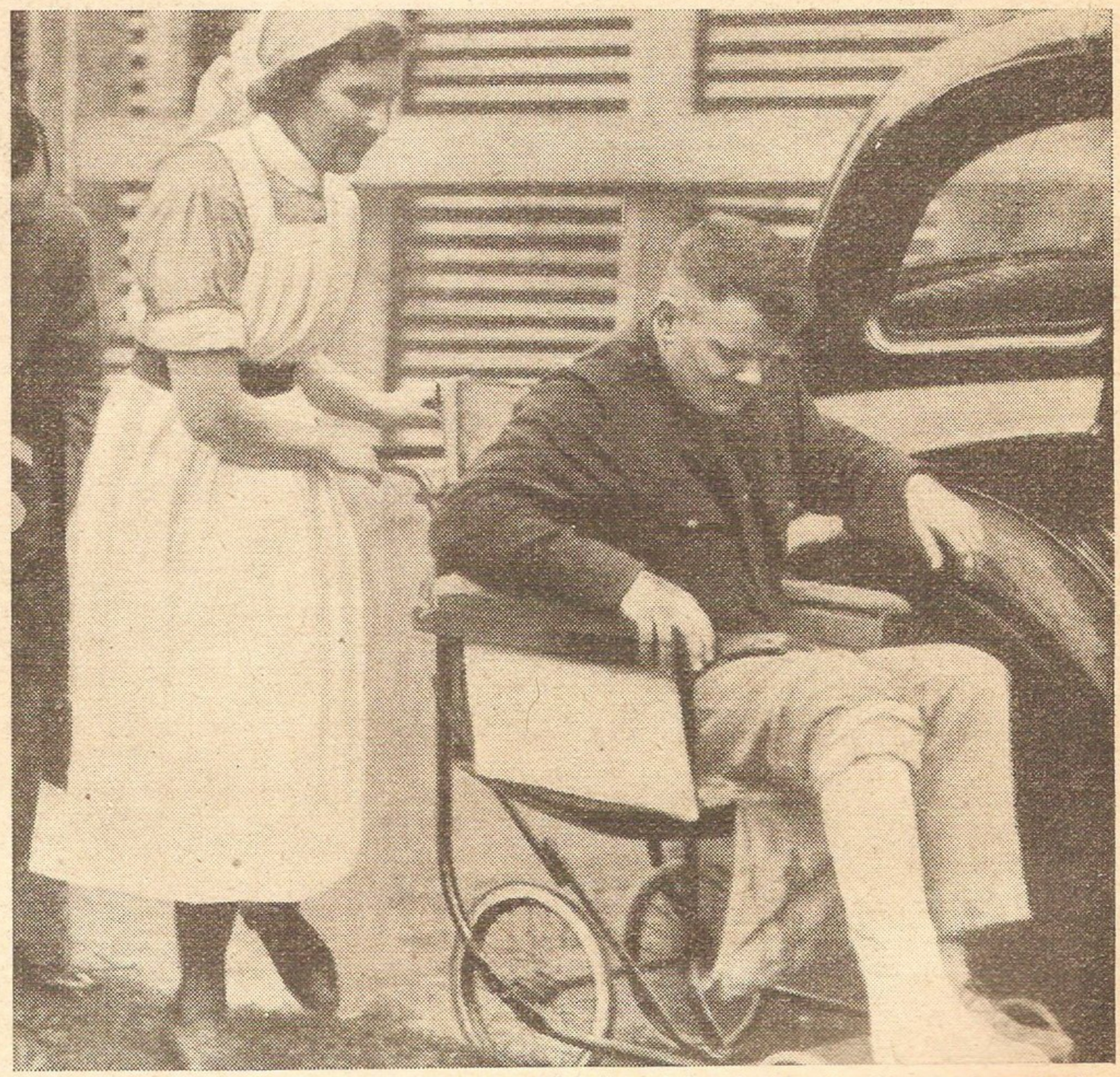
# Nazi Submarines Engage in Ocean-Wide Piracy



**Above is the Cunard Line cargo steamer Bosnia after she had been torpedoed and set on fire by the U-boat seen in the photograph below. Both photographs were taken from the Norwegian tanker Eidanger, which rescued the Bosnia's crew.**

URGED on by the necessity of striking as heavy a blow as possible at Britain's merchant fleet before the defensive tactics could be developed, the German naval authorities sent out to all seas every possible submarine about a month before the actual opening of hostilities. Germany started rebuilding her notorious U-boats in 1935, and up to April last, when the Anglo-German Naval Agreement was denounced by Hitler, 71 submarines were built or under construction. Since then 28 more are understood to have been begun, and no doubt the German naval yards are busy with further boats. Further examples of U-boat piracy with eye-witness stories appear in our "I Was There" section, pages 85–87.

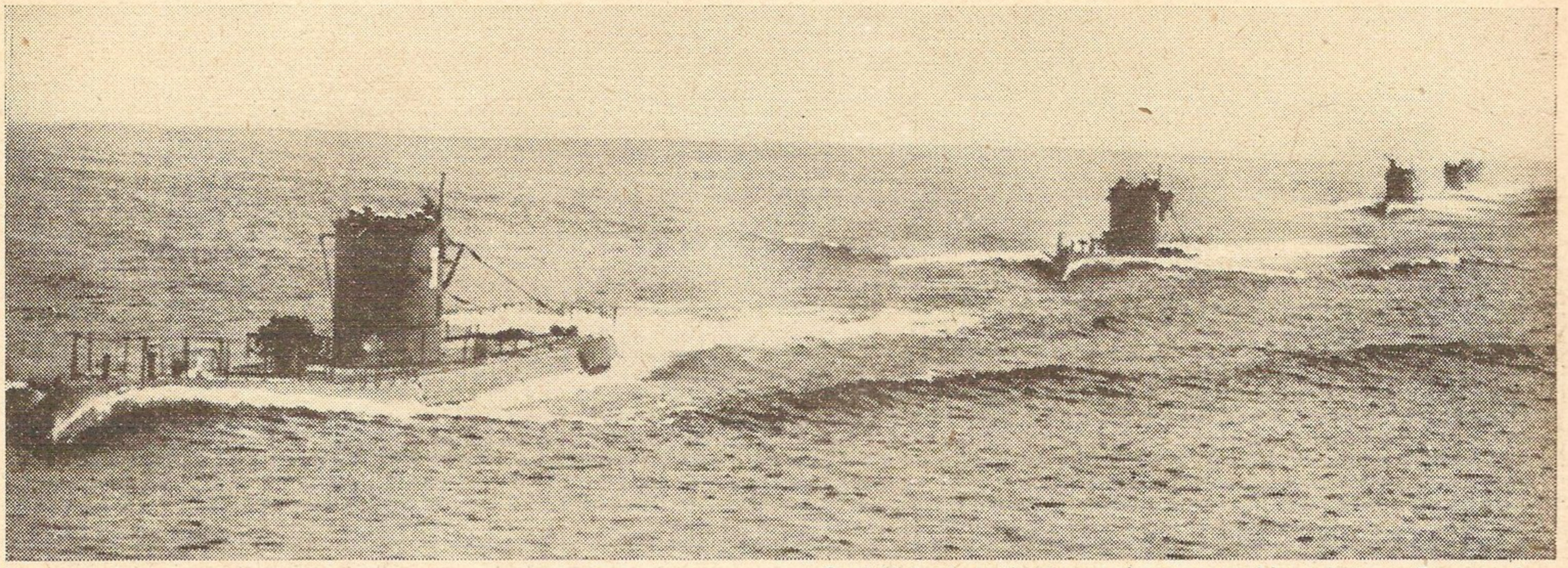




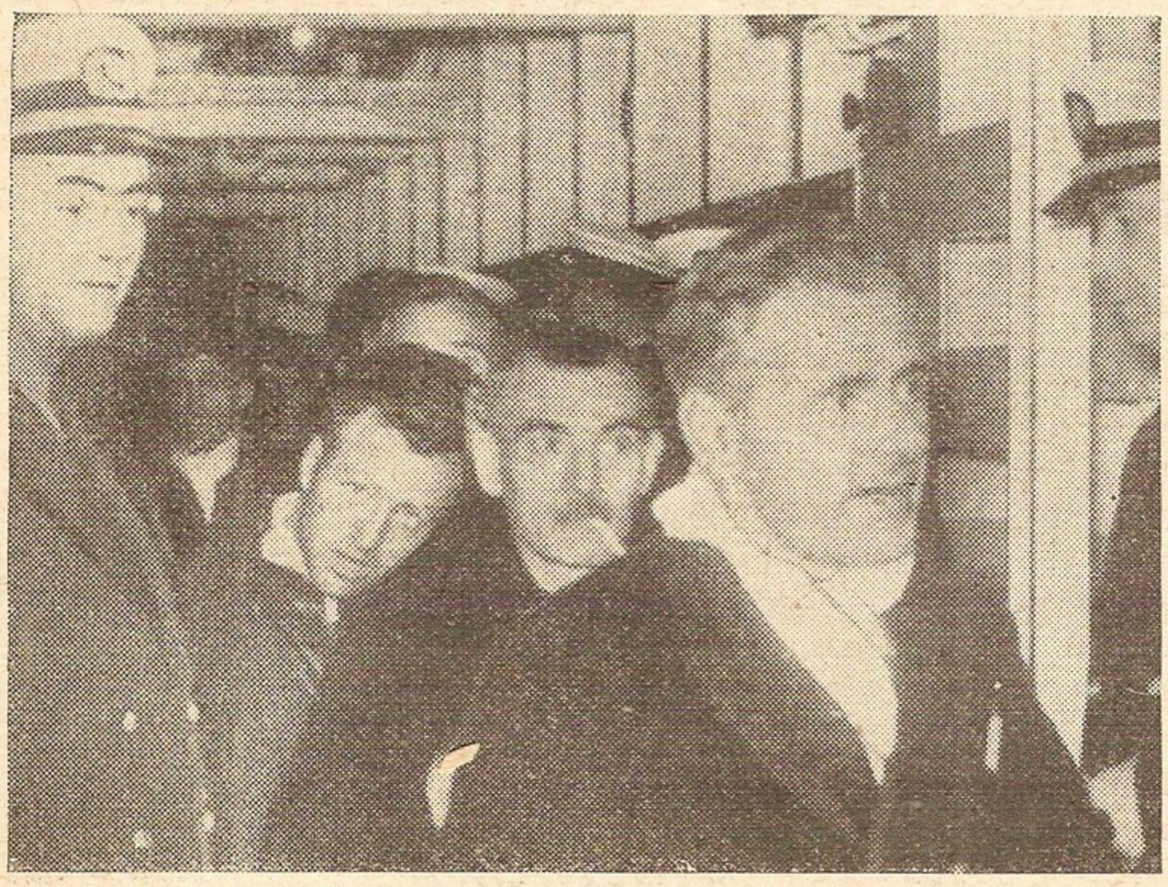
**Here we see the chief officer of the Goodwood, who was injured when the ship was torpedoed, being wheeled from hospital. The heroic behaviour of captain, officers and crew of this victim of the U-boats fully upheld the finest traditions of the sea.**

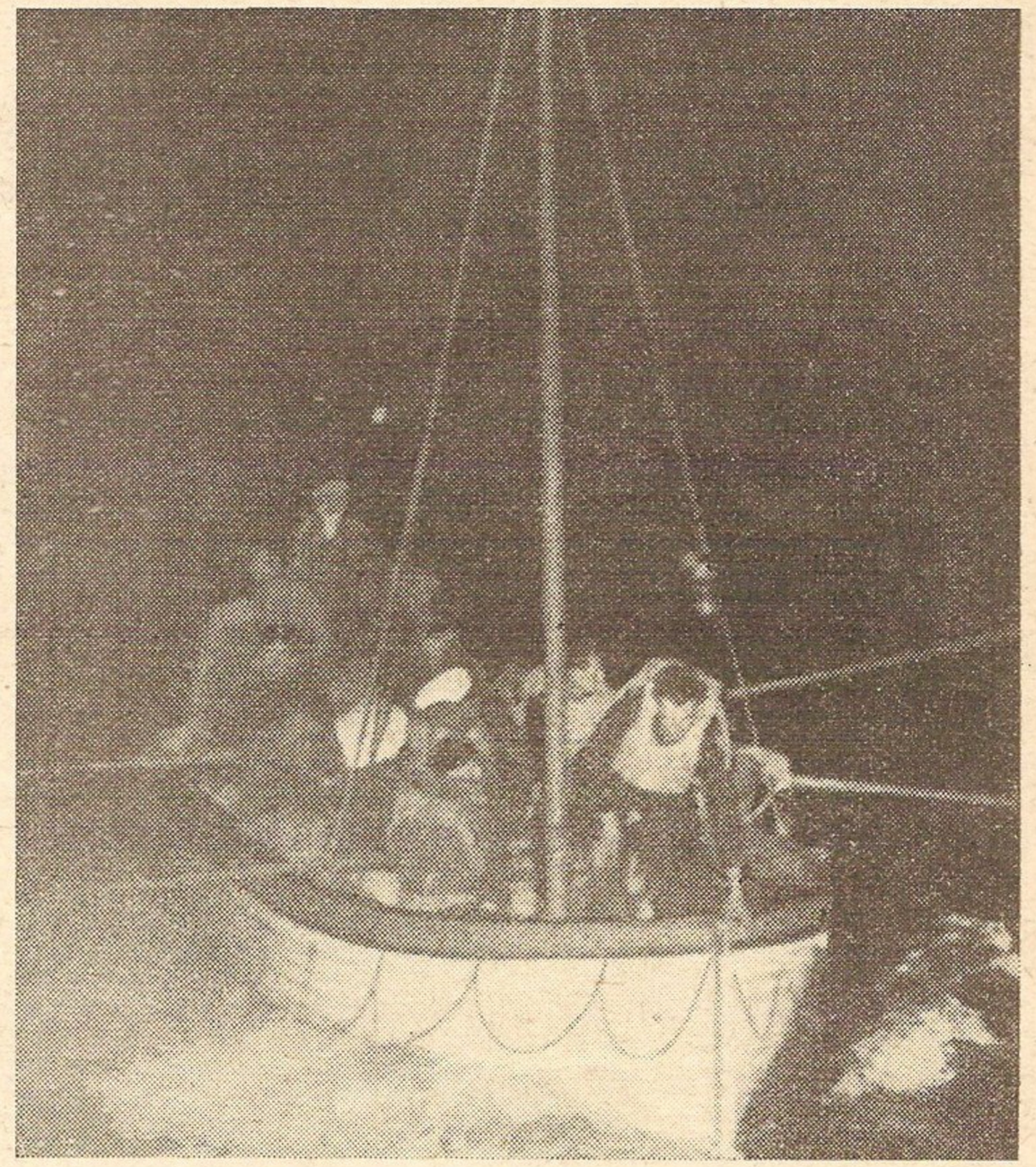
*Photo, Associated Press*

# Some Victims of the Early U-Boat Campaign



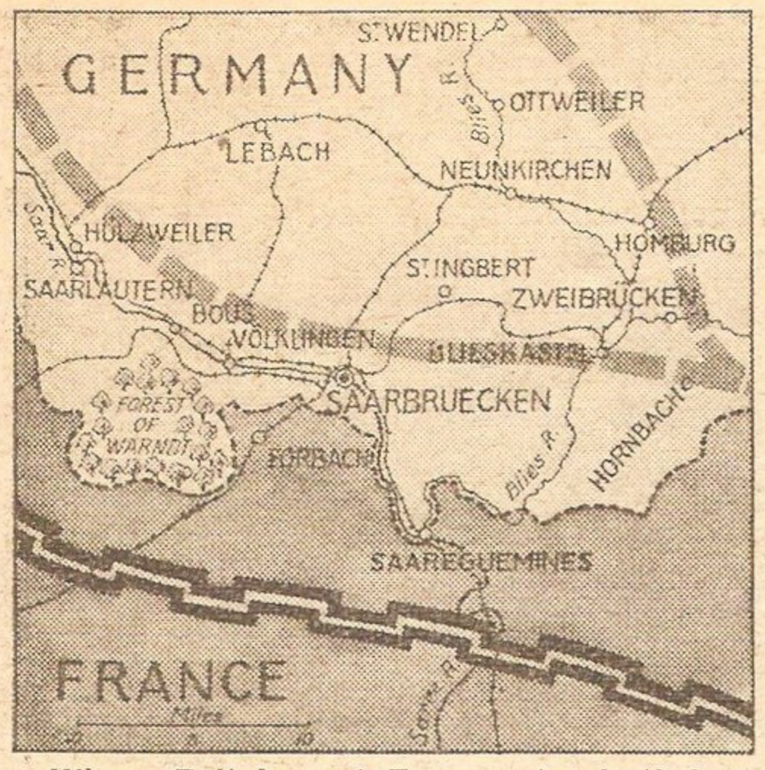
Such U-boats as those seen above are making what was Germany's last desperate bid for victory in 1917, but is their first bid now.





One of the early tragic results was the sinking of the trader "Olivegrove" 200 miles off the coast of Spain. The crew were ordered by the submarine's commander to take to their boats, and were towed until the American liner "Washington" was sighted, when they were cast off and the submarine submerged (see page 87). Centre, right, one of the "Olivegrove's" boats is coming alongside the "Washington." Centre, left, Captain James Barnetson of the "Olivegrove" is seen on board the "Washington." Bottom, survivors of the "Magdapur," several of them injured, are being landed from a lifeboat. A personal narrative of the sinking of the ship is in page 86.

# Gamelin's Hammer Blow at Nazi Western Forts




**Where Britain and France struck their first blow against the Reich.**

Properly shrouded, for military reasons, in obscurity though they were, enough was disclosed of the French military operations in the first weeks of war to realize that the attack on the Nazi lines of defence was being pushed ahead, and that from the outset Germany had been invaded and a definite threat was being developed against her famous Siegfried Line.

For some days after France and Britain declared war on Germany there was no news of fighting on the Western Front. In Poland the Nazi forces were rapidly making progress towards Warsaw, but where France and Germany meet it seemed that the great garrisons of the Maginot and Siegfried Lines rested immobile, watching and waiting for the first move from either side. Not a gun was fired, not a bomb was dropped; it was, indeed, "All quiet on the Western front."

When the French issued their first war communiqué on September 4, it merely stated that operations had begun by "the whole land, sea and air forces," and, later on the same night, it was added that contacts had been progressively made on the front and that aerial forces were proceeding with the necessary reconnaissances. The communiqués issued in the days that followed were couched in similarly laconic terms, and conveyed little information beyond the fact that the French forces were engaged in occupying the territory which lies between the Maginot and Siegfried Lines.

This "No man's land" is very different from that which was so described in the Great War of 1914–1918. Instead of vast expanses of shell-pocked waste, where towns and villages, roads and streams, had been all obliterated and merged into one foul and evil-smelling whole, there is a picturesque countryside, hilly and well-wooded, dotted with villages and with numerous signs of industrial activity.

Through this difficult country—difficult in the military sense—the French now gingerly proceeded. There was nothing in the nature of a break through, for there were no fortified lines *to* break through. Rather it was a question of "mopping up"—destroying machine-gun nests and flattening acres of barbed wire with those massive tanks of which the French army is so justly proud; of battering the concrete posts with heavy gun fire, of discovering and rendering harmless the numerous tank traps with which the whole district was strewn.

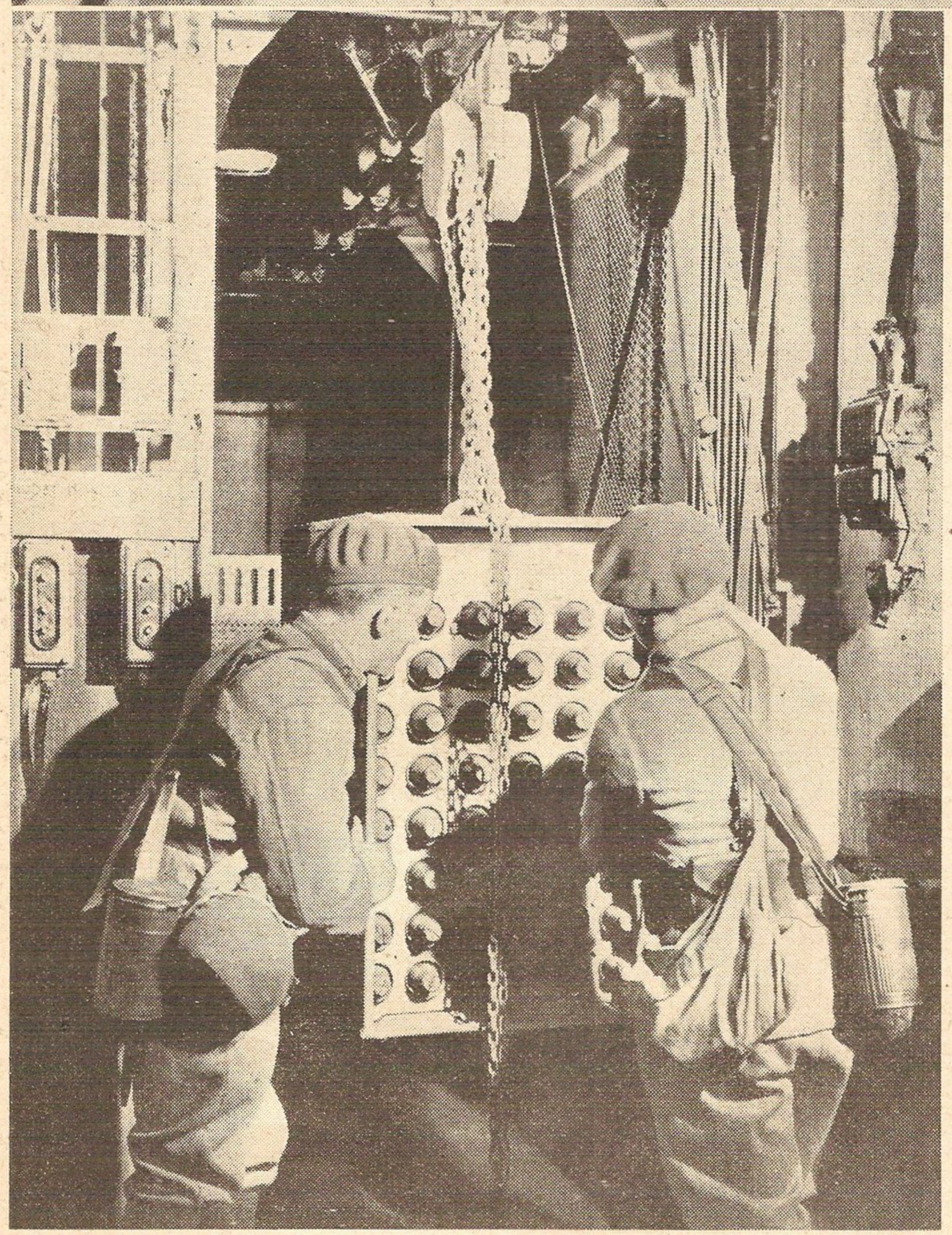
Probably the number of troops engaged in these preliminary operations was quite small. Unlike the Great War, which opened as a war of movement and then, after a few months, developed into a war between huge armies occupying heavily fortified positions, the war of 1939 opened between armies already entrenched behind the most massive fortifications that the skill of military engineers could devise and the labour of hundreds of thousands of workpeople could bring into being.

Some ten days or a fortnight after the campaign began it was possible to get some understanding of the method of operation, and of the results

**In the upper photograph men of an anti-aircraft battery are practising loading before moving up to the Maginot Line. The other picture shows huge tanks similar to those that constitute the formidable spearhead to the French attack.**

*Photos, Keystone and Associated Press*

# In the Maginot Line—France's Base of Attack



Here we have two further photographs of scenes in the Maginot Line. Top, French soldiers are exercising in an underground passage; below, an ammunition lift is being sent up to the guns from a magazine beneath.

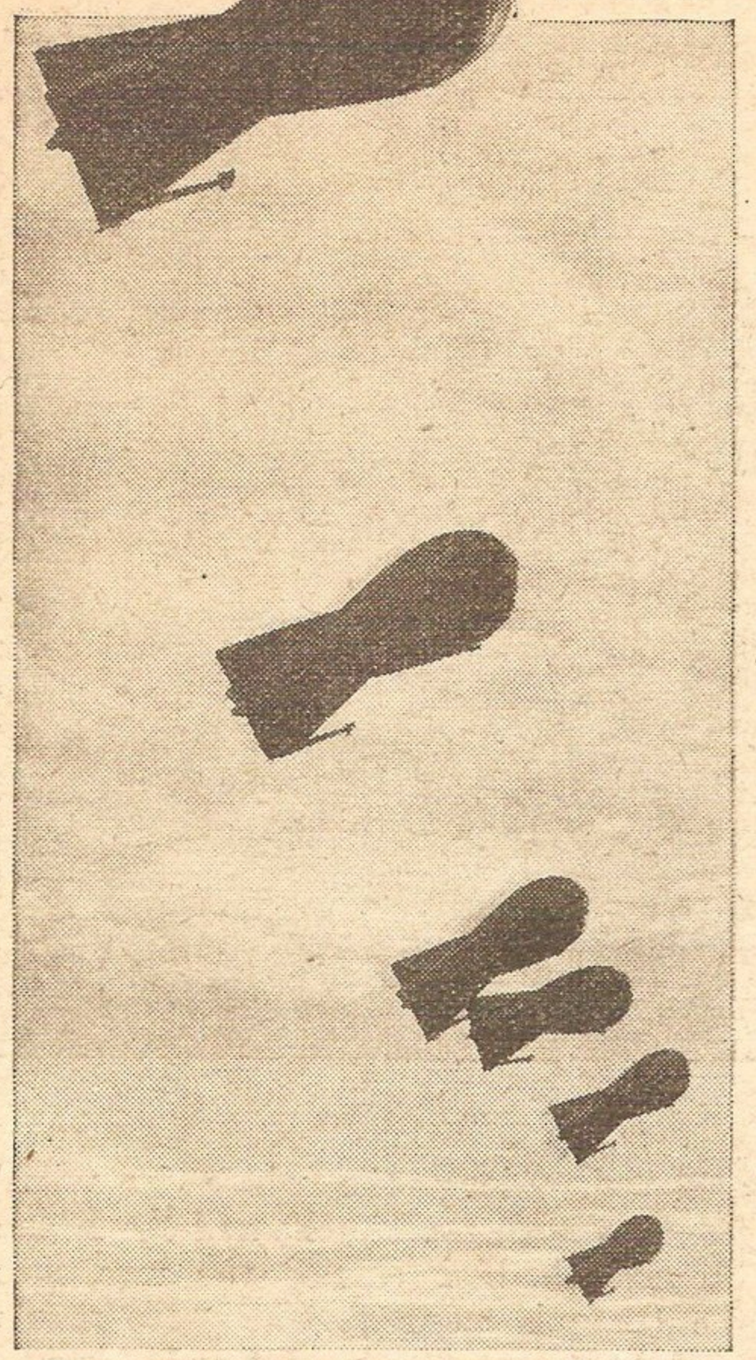
*Photos, Sport and General*

achieved. Along the whole 90 miles' front between the Moselle and the Rhine the French had carried the war into the enemy's country. The "No man's land" between the Maginot and Siegfried Lines had been practically cleared by the French mopping-up parties, and the invaders were now in contact with the advanced field works of the main German fortifications. So successful had been the operations isolated, and there were reports to the effect that the civilian population had been evacuated. The Warndt Forest to the west of the town had been cleared of German machine-gunners, and far behind the enemy lines road junctions and railways had been heavily bombed from the air and shelled by the great guns in the Maginot emplacements. In the air operations, though not as yet in those conducted on the ground, units of the British Expeditionary Force were already playing a conspicuous part.

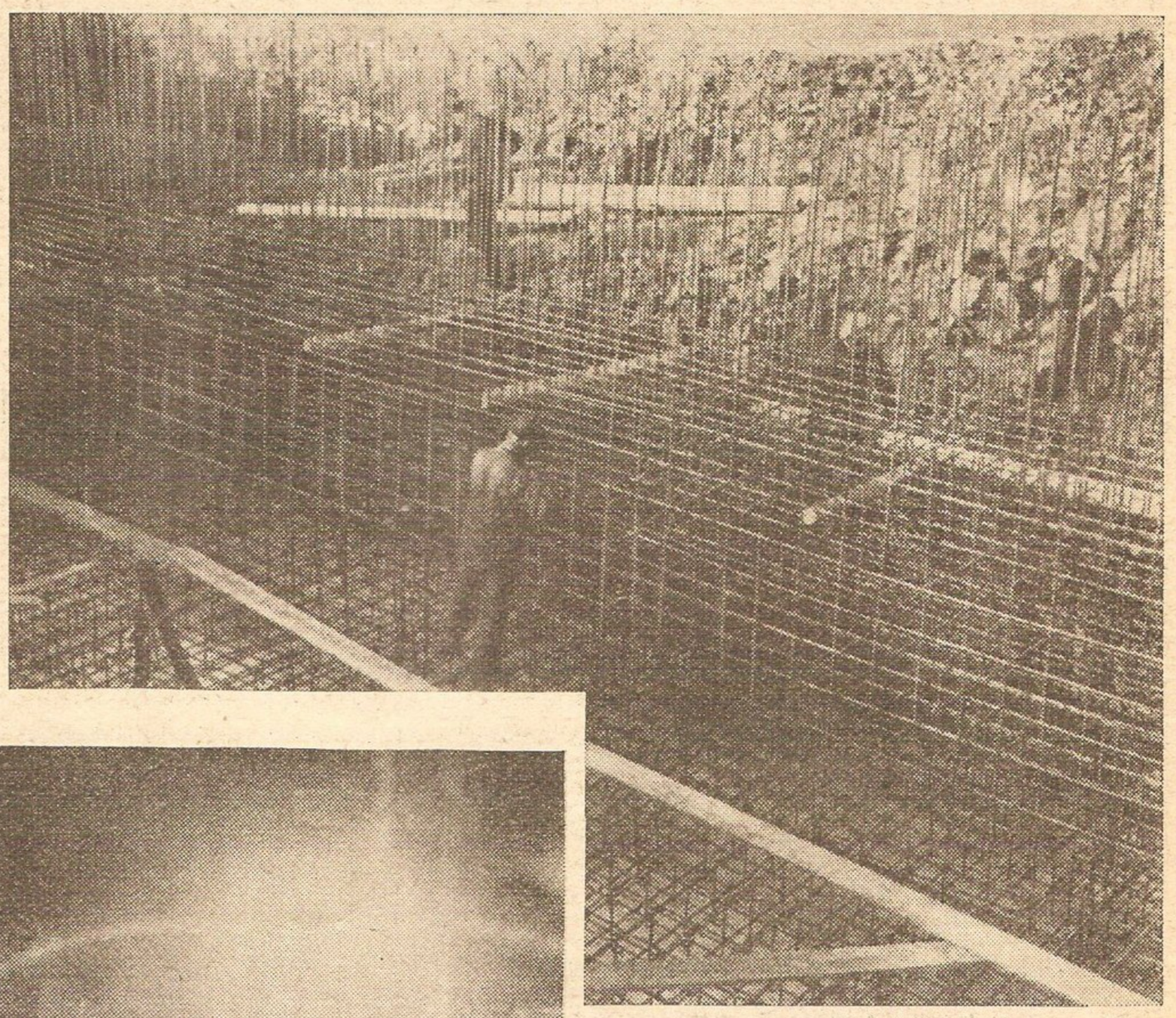
The brunt of the attack seems to have fallen, however, on the French tanks—huge armoured fortresses weighing 70 tons apiece, and whose armament includes one of the famous 75 mm. guns slung below the tractors. On September 14 observers in Luxemburg watched eight of these tanks making their way towards the German lines. As they advanced the German outposts were compelled to withdraw, and engineers blew up the railway line in their efforts to stem the advance of the monstrous engines of war.

The roar of battle could be heard in the streets of the city of Luxemburg, many miles away, and it was obvious that the struggle, hitherto a matter of outposts, of long-range artillery fire, of bombing raids, was developing an unprecedented intensity.

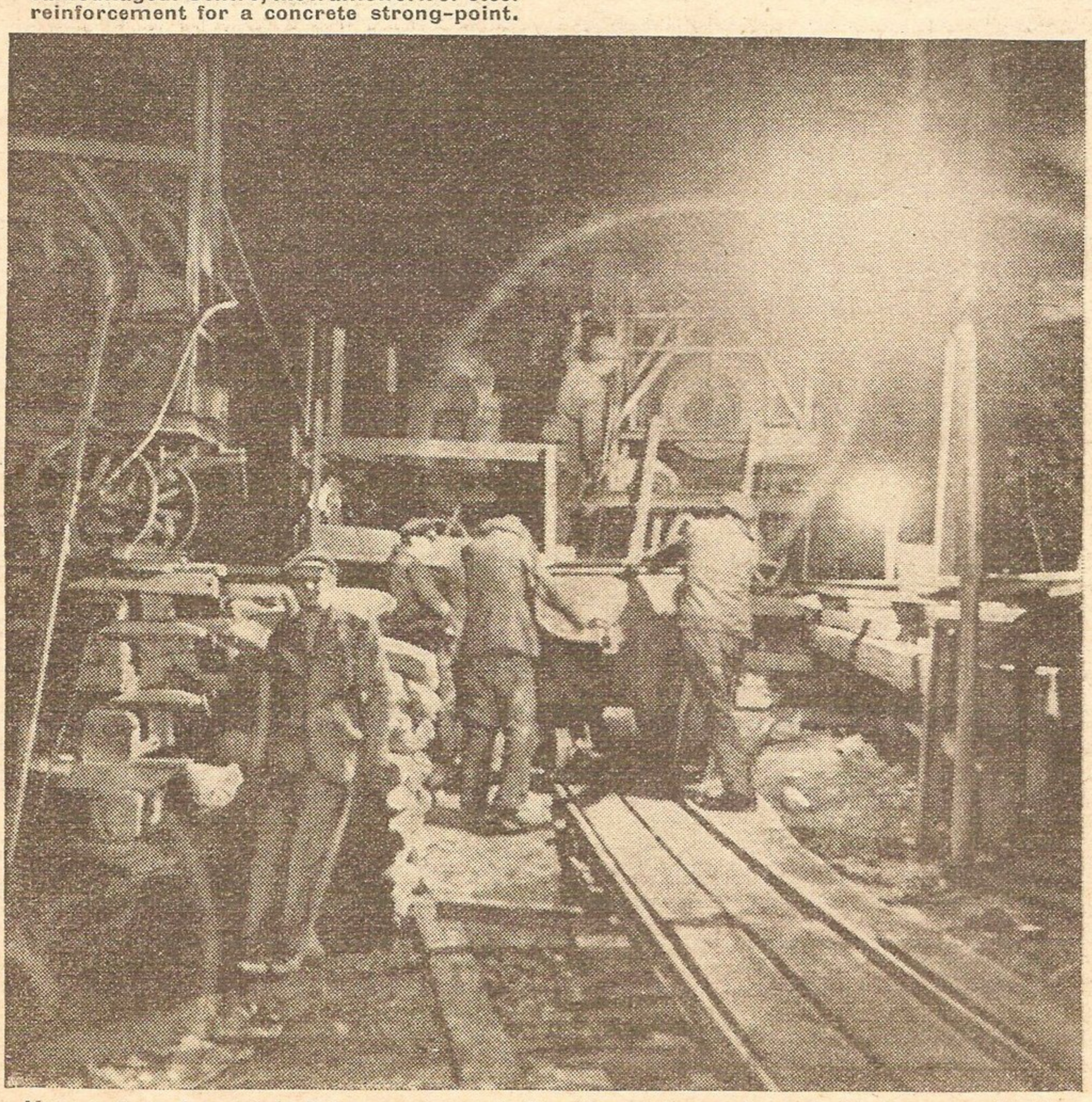
# The Great Siegfried Line is Threatened



These captive balloons carry listening apparatus to detect the approach of enemy aeroplanes.



Top right, an anti-aircraft gun is being camouflaged. Centre, the framework of steel reinforcement for a concrete strong-point.

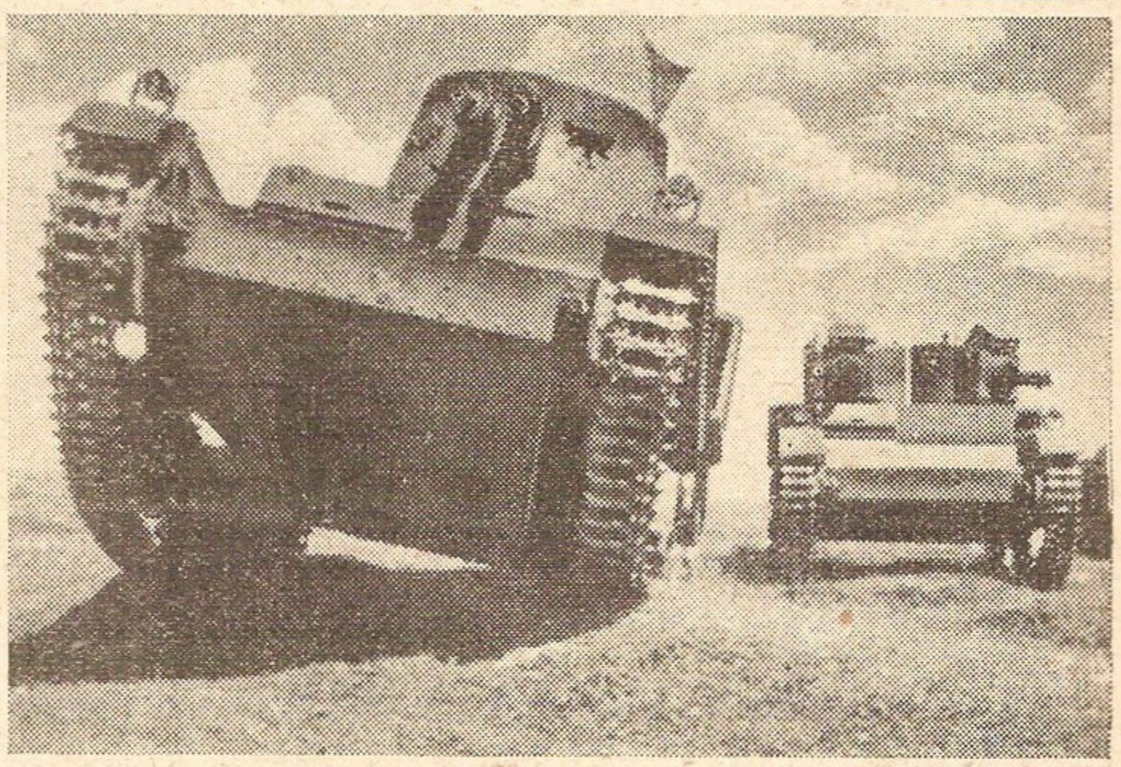


Here a deep dug-out is being constructed after the engineers have decided on a suitable position. The construction of the Siegfried Line, officially known as the Westwall, was only begun in July 1938, while work on the Maginot Line was started ten years earlier.

ALTHOUGH for more than a year some hundreds of thousands of engineers and workmen had been engaged on the construction of the Siegfried Line, Germany's western wall of defence was far from completed when war broke out. The work was pushed on with all speed, but it is hardly surprising that there were reports of criticisms by German soldiers who were stationed in the Line. According to these statements received through neutral sources, the ventilation was so bad that the air in the dug-outs was foul, and the more heavily protected dug-outs were not yet habitable—in some cases only the foundations had been laid.

Furthermore, those dug-outs which had been completed were crammed with munitions, and the garrison were in consequence exposed in open trenches to the terrible bombardment of the French artillery and aircraft. Food supply difficulties were also experienced. Semi-official French sources stated that the first heavy bombardments showed that the concrete of the fortifications was inferior.

# Poland's 'Brave and Resolute' Army in the Field



IT was an official German commentator who said that "it would be a mistake to think that the German army has an easy task in Poland. This war is not a 'walk-over.' The German army has to meet a brave and resolute enemy." Since that statement was issued, the German war machine has overwhelmed the Polish armies in the field and has captured practically every important centre of resistance. Nevertheless, the Nazi tribute to the quality of the Polish troops is unaffected by the outcome of the battle.

**In the top photograph Polish troops are moving forward to take up positions in advance trenches in front of Warsaw on September 12. Middle right, Polish tanks are moving forward preparatory to taking part in an attack on the enemy lines. In the photograph immediately above, Polish infantry are having some last-minute practice with gas masks before going into action.**

*Photos, Planet News and Wide World*

# Nazi Terrorism in Poland Knew No Mercy or Limits:

# Hitler's Plighted Word Broken Yet Again

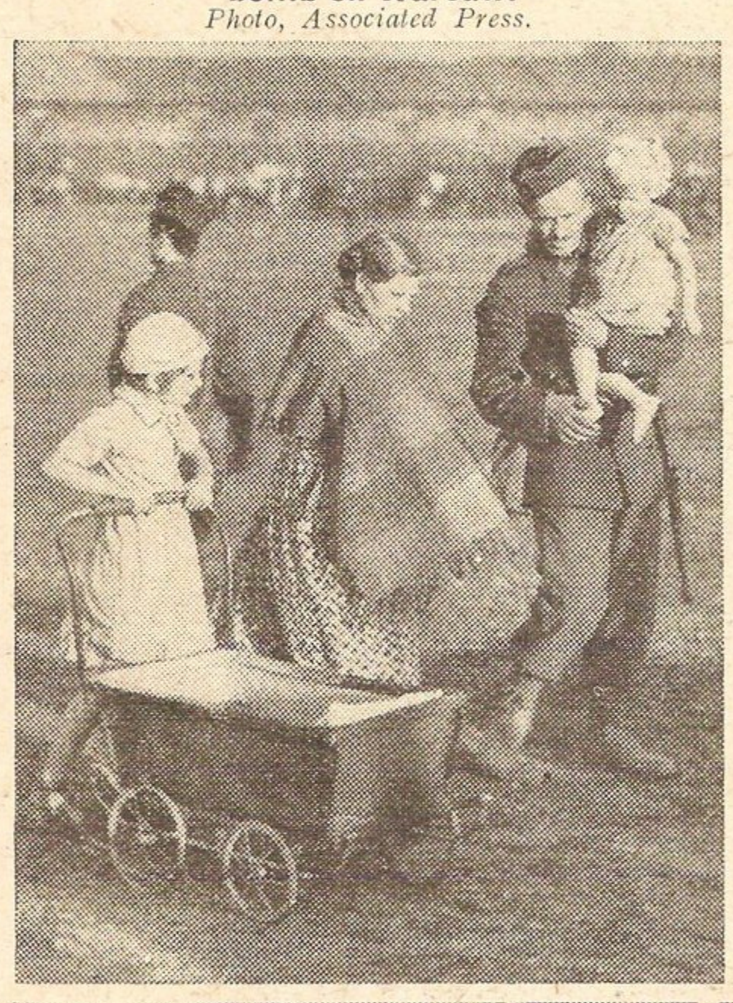
**This remarkable photograph brings home forcibly the sufferings of the Polish people and the callous cruelty of the invaders. A German staff car and some dispatch riders are halted in a Polish village while an officer observes the effect of incendiary bombs and shells. This happened before Hitler, maddened by the Polish resistance, ordered the ruthless bombing of open towns and villages. Thus, though he had promised at this time to refrain from making war on civilians, he had actually already perjured himself once more.**

*Photo, Associated Press*

# Murder Most Foul from the Air

In earlier pages (24 and 60) there appear clear and ample statements and examples of Hitler's declared policy of the grand lie—" the bigger the lie the greater its value." Here is presented the most heinous of all his broken words. Other photographs appear opposite.

**This boy's mother was killed and he was buried alive for 12 hours by a Nazi bomb on Warsaw.**
*Photo, Associated Press.*



"I WILL not war against women and children," said Herr Hitler in his speech to the Reichstag meeting in Berlin just as his legions were thrusting their way across the Polish frontier. "I have ordered my air force to restrict itself to attacks on military objectives."

Such was the Fuehrer's declaration—a declaration which was paralleled by his reply to President Roosevelt's appeal not to bomb civilian populations and unfortified cities in which he stated that he "agreed unconditionally to the proposal." The sentiment was irreproachable, but, alas, it was belied by the event.

A statement issued by the Polish Embassy in London on September 13 gave a list of towns which, even before Britain and France declared war on Germany, had been bombed by German aeroplanes—a list which included not only Warsaw, but all the principal centres of Polish industrial life.

"Since September 3," the statement went on, "scores of Polish towns and even villages have been raided by German bombers. Warsaw was raided repeatedly every day, and even residential quarters and working-class districts suffered grievously from deliberate bombing. The casualties among the civilians, especially among women and children between September 1 and September 3, amounted, according to official figures, to over 1,500 killed and many thousands wounded. Furthermore," the statement went on, "during the last two days the Germans began the methodical bombing of open towns far removed from the battle zone."

If the Polish Ambassador be regarded as a prejudiced witness, the same cannot be said of the United States Ambassador in Poland, who, in a telegram to the Department of State in Washington, gave a vivid picture of the bombing by Nazi airmen of the small town in which he and other members of the diplomatic corps in Warsaw had taken refuge.

"This place, a defenceless open village, was bombed at 11 a.m. today by a flight of four German 'planes, which dropped at least 12 bombs, not only on the outskirts but also along the main street 300 yards from this Embassy."

In a further telegram, Mr. Biddle declared that:

"In my opinion, the German forces are taking advantage of every opportunity without regard to the danger to the civilian population which may be involved. It is also evident that the German bombers are releasing the bombs which they carry even when in doubt as to the identity of their objectives."

He referred to the bombing of a clearly marked hospital train in Warsaw station, and the wiping out of a detachment of twelve Girl Guides in their hut. Among the other instances cited by the Ambassador were:

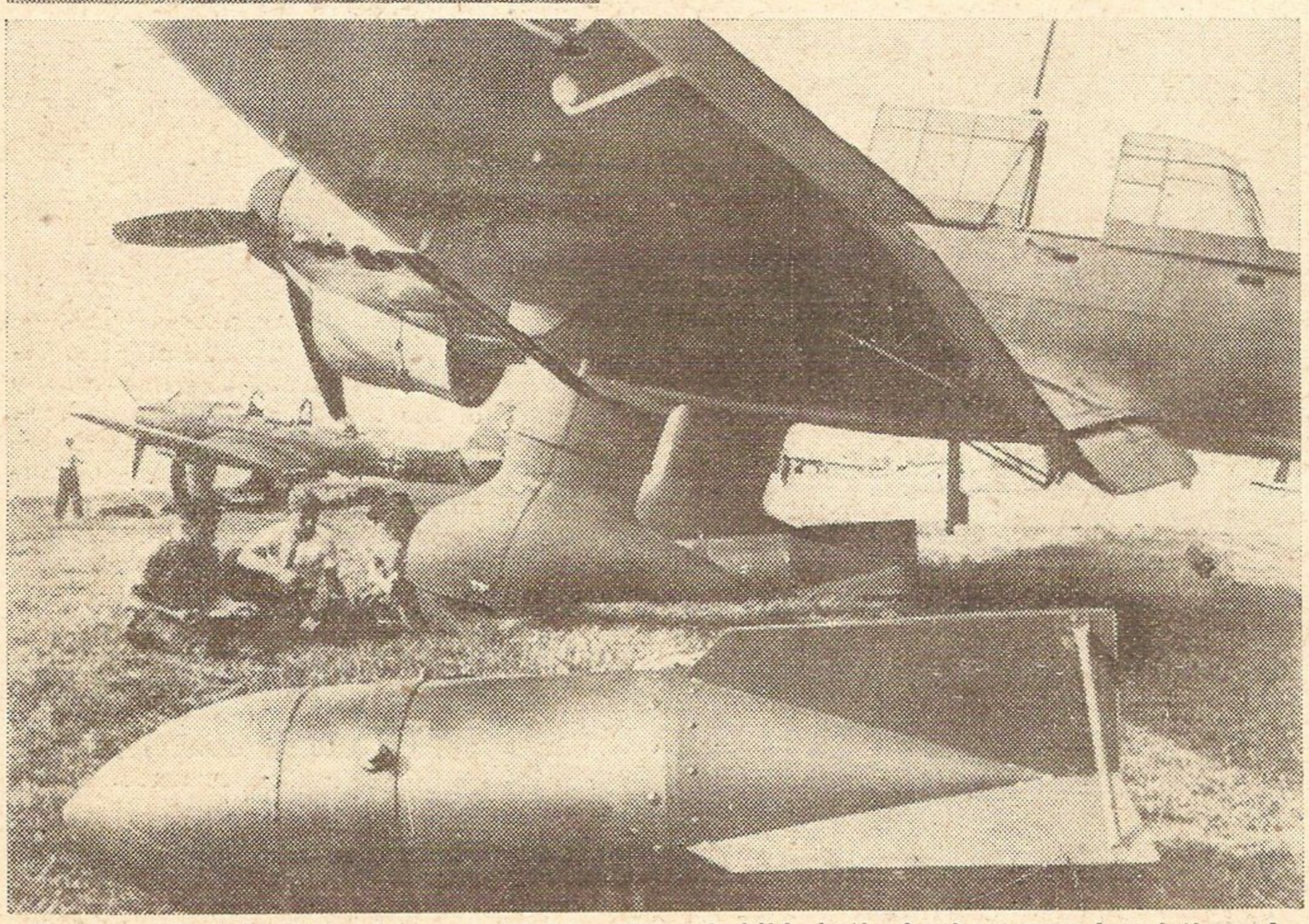
"attacks on my villa and that of my neighbour; a heavy attack on modern apartment buildings in the suburbs of Warsaw situated one kilometre from military barracks; the destruction of a sanatorium involving the death of ten children in woods near Otwock, and the bombing of a refugee train on the way from Kutno."

In the face of such indubitable proofs of the most flagrant violation of Herr Hitler's professed concern that his 'planes should spare women and children, the world learnt with a shrug of pardonable cynicism that the German High Command had announced that open towns, villages and hamlets were henceforth to be bombed and shelled, in order to break what they called the obstinate resistance of the civilian population. The excuse given by the German official news agency was that women, old men and children were erecting traps and organizing a guerilla warfare against Nazi troops.

Lord Halifax, Britain's Foreign Secretary, was not slow in replying to this further chapter in Nazi Germany's campaign of frightfulness. If the statement were true, he declared in the House of Lords, that the German High Command were intending to throw off all restraint in their air bombing, then:

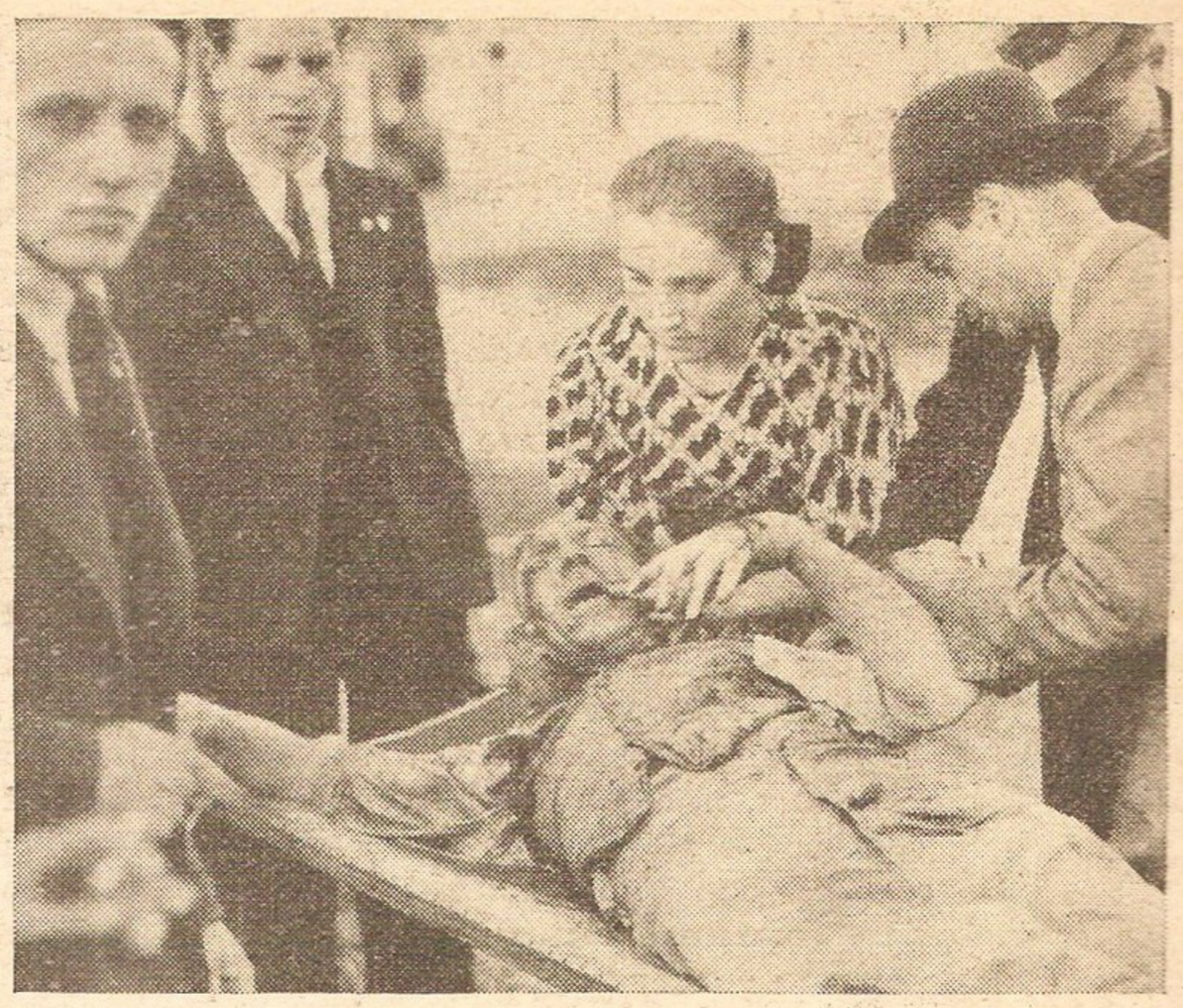
"It would seem to be in direct contradiction to the statement of purpose expressed by the German Chancellor in his Reichstag speech, when he disclaimed any desire to make war on women and children. . . . Whatever may be the rights of belligerent armies as against francs-tireurs, there can be no sort of justification for what must be indiscriminate bombardment, whether from the sea or air, of the civilian population. The British Government must hold themselves completely free if such restraint is not in fact observed to take such action as they may deem appropriate."

Hitler himself is the grand franc-tireur.



**Centre, a Polish soldier is seen with his wife and child, both of whom may be victims of Nazi fury while he is fighting. Immediately above, Nazi bombers are preparing for war on women and children.**
*Photos, Planet News and Wide World*

# This is the Way Nazis Made War



**Above, a woman suffering from shock is being helped away. Right, a badly-injured civilian is receiving first-aid. All through the days of intensive bombing from the air the people of Warsaw showed remarkable courage in working in the open among the injured.**
*Photos, Planet News*

IN the light of photographs such as these, what becomes of Herr Hitler's declaration to the Reichstag on September 1, that he would not wage war against women and children? All the accounts from the scene of battle in Poland are agreed in stating that from the outset the Nazi airmen paid small regard to the safety of the civilian population; and after the first few days of war even the mask of humanitarianism was thrown aside, and the air terror was developed with a view to crushing the Polish resistance. Far behind the battle zone, towns and villages were bombed by the raiding 'planes; crowds doing their Saturday shopping in the market-places of peaceful villages were machine-gunned from the air; and on the great towns—Warsaw in particular—were dropped many tons of bombs. According to Polish broadcasts, 400 bombs were dropped on Vilna alone in one day and a total of 20,000 civilian deaths was estimated up to September 17.

**In this page we give incontestable evidence that the civilian population of Warsaw was unmercifully bombed from the air. Above, working-class dwellings are on fire as a result of the dropping of incendiary bombs. The photographer who took the pictures was wounded while doing so. He said that the German bombing 'planes passed over the city with systematic regularity in their work of destruction.**

# THE EMPIRE'S HELP IN FIGHTING HITLER

When Britain is at war the British Commonwealth is at war, too. Hardly had Britain taken up the challenge thrown down by the Nazi aggressors when member after member of the great family of nations of which she is the head hastened to offer her their unstinted support in men, money, and materials.

On the very day, September 3, 1939, that Britain declared war on Germany, Mr. R. G. Menzies, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia, in a broadcast to the Australian people declared that "there is unity in the Empire ranks—one King, one flag, one cause. We stand with Britain."

On the same day New Zealand hastened to make it plain that she, too, stood shoulder to shoulder with Britain and her fellow Dominions. New Zealand's fullest co-operation was promised by Mr. Fraser, acting Prime Minister, in a broadcast to the nation, and it was stated that the British Government had been informed that New Zealand concurred entirely with her determination to honour her pledged word. A week later the decision was announced to raise a special military force to serve within or beyond New Zealand.

Canada, too, was quick in making it plain where she stood. Mr. Mackenzie King, the Prime Minister, in a broadcast speech to the nation on the first Sunday evening of the war, referred to the King's broadcast from London, in which he had appealed to all to make this their own fight to destroy once for all the doctrine that might is right. "Canada," said Mr. Mackenzie King, "has already answered that call." He went on to say that the Canadian parliament was to be called immediately, and that war measures were to be put in operation. "There is no home in Canada," he added, "and no man, woman or child whose life is not bound up with this struggle." On September 10 a state of war between the German Reich and His Majesty's Dominion of Canada was declared to exist. In his speech in the House Mr. Mackenzie King said that Canada's liberties came from "those men in England and France who never hesitated to lay down their lives when their freedom was threatened."

Measures of economic, naval and air co-operation were immediately instituted, and, as "down under," huge sums were voted for war purposes.

In South Africa there was at first an attempt by the Prime Minister, General Hertzog, to declare the Union's neutrality in the struggle, but anti-Hitler, anti-Nazi opinion in his cabinet, as in Parliament and amongst the South African people as a whole, proved too strong. The Prime Minister resigned, and his place was taken by General Smuts, the famous soldier-statesman who had captained South Africa in the last war.

From India, too, there came a stream of offers of service. "Nothing could be more significant," said Lord Linlithgow, the Viceroy, "than the unanimity of approach of all in India—princes, leaders, great political parties, the ordinary man and woman—or of their political contributions, and the offers of personal service which have already reached me from the princes and people of India."

So from all the British Crown Colonies, the Protectorates, the Mandated Territories, in every corner of the globe, the answer came in no uncertain voice: "Where the Motherland stands, there her children stand beside her."

## THE EMPIRE STANDS TO ARMS!

**Australia** declared war, Sept. 3rd.

**New Zealand** went to war, Sept. 3rd.

Men of **Newfoundland** rushed to enlist, Sept. 4th.

**Nepal** offered troops, Sept. 4th.

Queen of **Tonga** put all resources at Britain's support, Sept. 4th.

Legislative Countil of **Malta** reaffirmed people's loyalty, Sept. 5th.

State Council of **Ceylon** declared wholehearted support, Sept. 5th.

Emir of **Transjordan** telegraphed offering support, Sept. 5th.

**Bahamas** declared loyalty, Sept. 5th.

Legislative Council of **Fiji** declared loyalty and devotion, Sept. 5th.

**South Africa** declared war, Sept. 6th.

Governor of **Sind Province, India,** sent loyal message, Sept. 8th.

More than 50 princes of **India** had declared loyalty by Sept. 9th.

**Canada** declared war, Sept. 10th.

Arabs and Jews of **Palestine** had responded in support of Britain by Sept. 10th.

Message of support from Sultan of **Oman,** Sheikh of **Bahrain,** etc., by Sept. 10th.

Legislative Council of **Tanganyika's** loyal readiness reported, Sept. 10th.

Natives of **Nigeria** declared loyalty, Sept. 10th.

Legislative Assembly of **British Honduras** passed loyal resolution, Sept. 11th.

Governor of **Northern Rhodesia** conveyed loyal messages on behalf of native chiefs, Sept. 11th.

Upper House of Central Legislature of **India** sent a message of admiration to Poland, Sept. 12th.

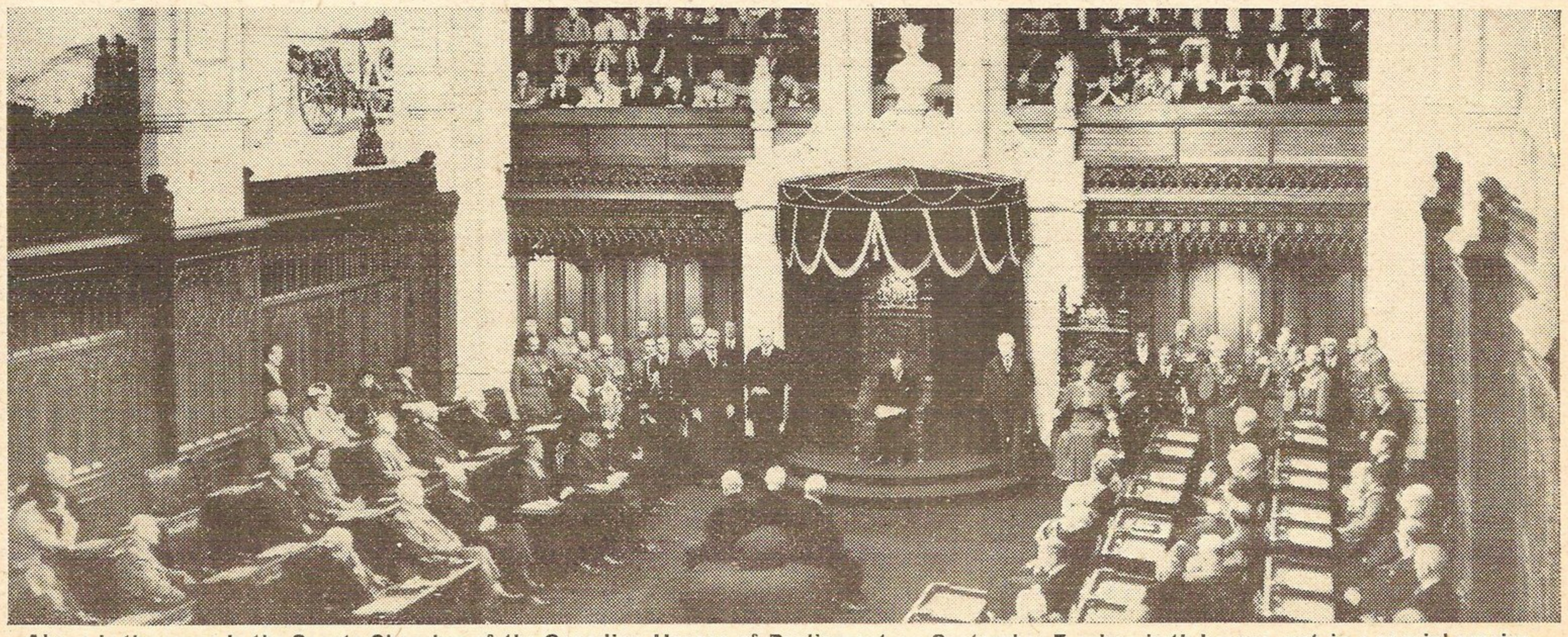
Aga Khan placed his services at disposal of Government of **India,** Sept. 12th.

**Trinidad** and **Montserrat** passed resolutions of loyalty, Sept. 12th.

House of Assembly of **Barbados** passed address of loyalty, Sept. 14th.

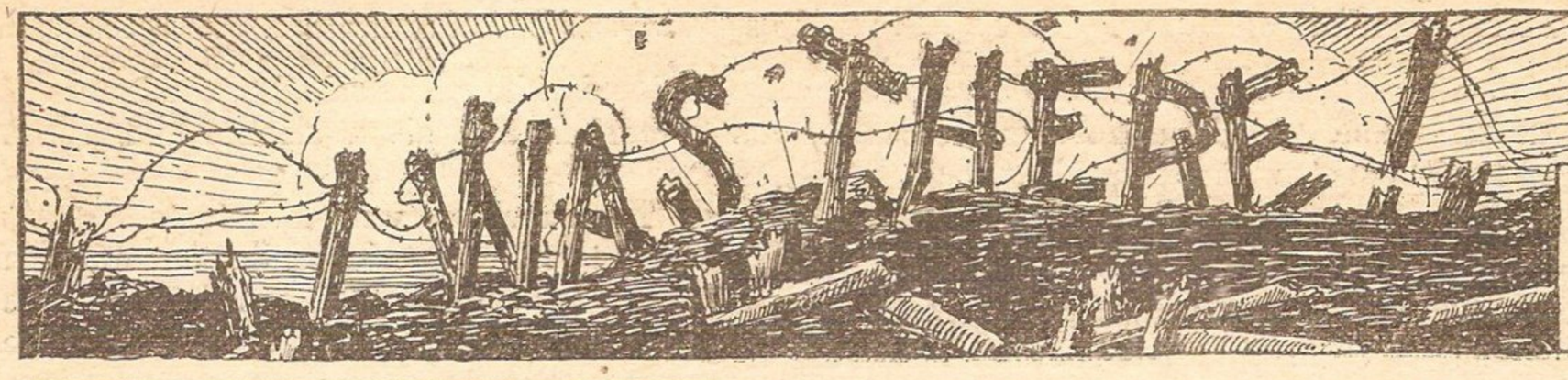
Kabaka of Buganda sent through Governor of **Uganda** loyal message, Sept. 14th.

High Commissioner for **Basutoland, Bechuanaland,** and **Swaziland** sent loyal resolution on behalf of Swazi nations, Sept. 6th.



**Above is the scene in the Senate Chamber of the Canadian Houses of Parliament on September 7, when both houses met in a special session. Lord Tweedsmuir, the Governor-General, is reading the speech from the Throne asking the house to provide for war expenditure.**

*Photo, Planet News*




**Eye Witness Stories of Episodes and Adventures in the Second Great War**

*In this Section we present week by week a collection of personal accounts of war experiences. They are selected on the same basis as those of the long series dealing with the first Great War which appeared in "I Was There," published under the same Editorship in 1938-39.*

# How We Bombed the Nazi Ships at Kiel

Dramatic first-hand accounts of the R.A.F. raid on the German naval bases near the Kiel Canal—the first British air action of the War—are reprinted below. In issuing the stories to the Press, the Ministry of Information stated that the pilots and crews of the aircraft engaged were drawn from Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Eire.

THE leader of the first flight to reach its objective had as his navigator a Canadian.

"We started for Wilhelmshaven at 4 p.m. on September 4," said the leader. "When we left, the afternoon was fine, but as we flew we ran into foul weather with heavy, continuous rain.

"We reached Wilhelmshaven after two hours of flying. As we turned on our last course, five minutes away from Wilhelmshaven, the weather cleared for a few minutes. Breaking the flight formation we flew singly into the Schilling Roads.

"We could see a German warship taking on stores from two tenders at her stern. We could even see some washing hanging on a line. Undaunted by the washing we proceeded to bomb the battleship.

"Flying at 100 feet above mast height, all three aircraft in the flight converged on her. I flew straight ahead. The pilot of the second aircraft came across from one side, and the third crossed from the other side.

**When we flew on the top of the battleship we could see the crews running fast to their stations. We dropped our bombs.**

"The second pilot, flying behind, saw two hit. We came round, and the ship's pom-pom guns began to fire as we headed for home. My navigator saw shells bursting almost on the tail of the aircraft."

The second pilot, swooping across, took a photograph just before dropping his first bomb, and it was found to be very blurred owing to the weather conditions.

By now the sky had clouded over again. The aircraft were driving through blinding rain. As this bomber turned on the homeward course the navigator noticed machine-gun tracer bullets nipping past the port wing tip. They looked like small blue electric sparks.

**As the pilot of the third aircraft skimmed in his turn towards the warship, he saw the first bomb drop from the second bomber. "To me," he said, "it appeared to drop dead amidships."**

By now the battleship's crew were all at action stations, and the third pilot got, as he said, "some hot stuff." This pilot dropped his bombs and made a half circuit round the battleship. Wheeling he noticed three bursts of A.A. fire at the leader's machine.

BY 7.30 p.m. the flight were back at their station.

Another vivid account was given by the officers and crew of aircraft from another squadron which took part in the raids in the Kiel area.

One of the aircraft was hit several times both by shells and bullets, but returned home safely, although two of the petrol tanks were punctured. The remaining two bombers were not hit.

"We set out in fine weather," said the leader of this attack. "We were flying at 2,000 feet, but we soon ran into a belt of cloud and came down to 300 feet. In the thick mist, one pilot became separated from the others, but he took up station again after ten minutes or so.

"We were near the German coast when half a dozen enemy fighters came out to engage us.

**"A game of hide and seek in the clouds followed and our craft were successful in eluding their pursuers and left them behind.**

"Conditions grew worse and there was heavy rain for an hour. Then the weather improved and my bombers gained height, giving a wide berth to all the islands along the German coast. We observed considerable activity by enemy merchant shipping.

"We made our landfall accurately and flew up the Elbe estuary until we sighted a number of German naval vessels. We were then flying at 6,000 feet under a thin layer of cloud.

"The enemy held his fire until we were almost over our target.

**The Kiel Canal is here seen from the air, and the airmen who took part in the raid may well have had much the same view as this. In the centre are the new locks, about 1,200 feet long and nearly 50 feet wide.** *Photo, E.N.A.*

## I WAS THERE!

**"Then suddenly he opened with every gun he could bring to bear on us; it was terrific, especially the firing from the big ships, which seemed to carry seven anti-aircraft guns on either beam.**

"You could watch the tracer shells rising after the flash of the gun in spirals and follow the whole of their course. We made our aircraft as difficult targets as we could by manœuvring. We then straightened out and dropped our bombs.

"At once we rose up into the clouds with the shells bursting round us and made for home, after an effective smack at the enemy. Our flight all returned home safely."

The leading aircraft was hit by a shell which almost singed the trousers of the wireless operator. Two of the petrol tanks were perforated and several bits of fuselage shot away, but in spite of everything it made its home station safely and landed without incident.

OTHER aircraft taking part in the raid returned independently. Two of them sighted a submarine making for Germany on the surface at high speed as was shown by her wake.

**At the sight of the British aeroplanes she dived precipitately. An observer thought she left smoke behind her.**

As all the bombs had been dropped on the objectives in Germany, unfortunately not one was left, otherwise she would have been an easy victim. Another bomber passed right over the top of the Heligoland fortifications, but was unmolested either by fighters or anti-aircraft fire.

# We Were Victims of the Nazi U-Boats

Having taken up their positions in the High Seas days and weeks before War was declared, the German U-boats were able to sink quite a number of British merchant-vessels before the convoy system could be instituted. What British holidaymakers saw of the sinking of the "Magdapur" is told below, and the account is followed by stories of other sinkings reported in "The Daily Telegraph" and "The Sunday Times."

WHEN the Liverpool steamship "Magdapur" (8,640 tons) was torpedoed by a German U-boat on Sunday, September 10, thousands of holidaymakers at a British seaside resort saw from the beach the ship go down.

Following a loud explosion which rocked many of the buildings on shore, a column of water shot into the air alongside the steamer. Two hours later she had gone to the bottom. Two ships took off the crew, most of whom were Lascars, and 70 of the survivors were brought ashore by the coast lifeboat. When news of the sinking spread, the local A.R.P. services were mobilized to deal with the injured, who were rushed to the homes of fisherfolk and given clothes and a hot meal.

The survivors were loth to talk about their terrible experience, but one of them said: "There was a terrific explosion amidships and then the boat listed. We were all thrown from our seats. I heard no warning."

**The sinking of the "Olivegrove" took place at 9 o'clock at night. Above, survivors are coming alongside the U.S. liner "Washington" in one of the ship's boats. Other photographs of the sinking of the "Olivegrove" are in page 75.**

*Photo, Keystone*

ANOTHER victim of the U-boats during the same week was the British tanker "Regent Tiger" (10,176 tons). "It was a terrifying spectacle after the torpedo had struck," said one of the ship's officers. "There was an explosion, and flames 1,000 feet high roared into the sky. We were in two ship's lifeboats about 300 to 400 yards away, but at that distance the fumes were suffocating and the heat unbearable. The tanks of our ship were filled with petrol. As the fire spread the tanks blew up. We have since heard that the tanker is still ablaze and the sea around her."

THE "Inverliffey" was another British tanker sunk by a German submarine—this time in the open sea of the Atlantic. Third Officer Albert Lang had this thrilling story to tell when he landed in England.

"It was about one o'clock in the afternoon," he said, "when a submarine fired at us. We sent out an S O S and tried to get away, but shells continued to burst all around us.

"We had a crew of forty on board. We lowered the boats as soon as we could. The captain and several of the officers left in the last boat. There were eight of us in this boat, and as we rowed away the submarine fired into the 'Inverliffey' amidships. She went up with a roar.

"Flames and smoke went up 500 or 600 feet. We rowed for our lives until we could row no more, and when we thought we were done the commander of the submarine steered his ship alongside and told us we could stand round the conning-tower. We were nearly waist-deep in water.

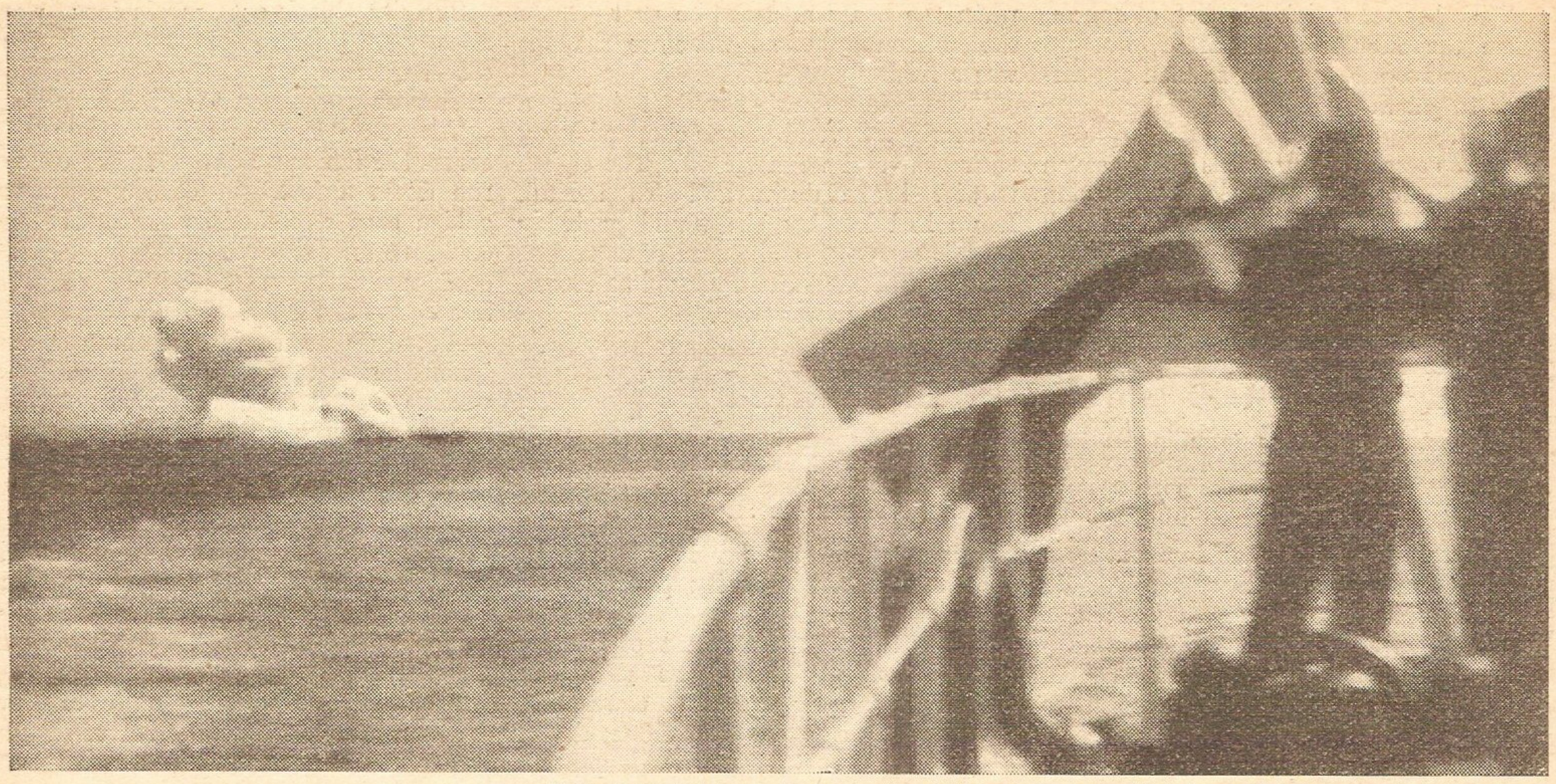
"The submarine commander said that if any British warships turned up he would have to submerge and leave us. This would have meant that we should have been struggling in the water with no boats near.

"No sooner had we all got on to the submarine than it got up speed and took us out of danger.

"The commander, a young man, treated us decently. The submarine cruised away until we got near one of our own lifeboats. Then the captain waved his hand in farewell, submerged his ship, and we swam to the boat.

"Some hours later we were picked up, and afterwards transferred to another vessel."

## I WAS THERE!



**This remarkable photograph shows the explosion which immediately preceded the disappearance of the Bosnia. It was taken by a survivor of the torpedoed ship's crew from the deck of the Norwegian tanker Eidanger. Other photographs are in page 76.**

*Photo, Associated Press*

THE story of the sinking on September 7 of the "Olivegrove" (Glasgow freighter, 4,060 tons) comes from the lips of Chief-Officer William Watson.

Mr. Wilson, who was torpedoed at the Dardanelles in the last war, said that after the submarine had fired a shot across the "Olivegrove's" bows and signalled to her to abandon ship, the crew of 33 were given 20 minutes to get the lifeboats away.

"Everything was done in a leisurely way," he said, "as if the submarine had a week to do the job.

"The submarine commander hailed our two lifeboats to come alongside, and in perfect English he gave us our course to land. Nevertheless, he kept following us for nearly three hours. Then he came alongside, and, still very courteous, told us: 'There is a vessel coming to your assistance. I thank you.'

"Half an hour later we were taken on board the rescue ship, which was the American liner Washington."

When Mr. Wilson's lifeboat was bobbing in the sea beside the submarine after the ship had been sunk he was able to judge from the "grass"—marine growth—on the plating of the U-boat that she had been away from her home port for about a month—long before war was declared.

He added: "And from what I could see of the crew as they stood round the conning-tower they were all pretty 'jumpy,' dejected and shabbily dressed. The name on their hatbands was so faded that it was unreadable."

Cathil Maclean, an 18-year-old member of the crew, said:

"The commander—he seemed to be a man under 30, and, like the rest of the crew, had a long beard—told us to set a course for the north and we would be picked up by a liner. Later he fired a rocket to the "Washington" notifying her of our position."

WHEN the captain and 31 members of the crew and the solitary passenger of the Cunard White Star steamer "Bosnia" were landed at Lisbon, they had a tale to tell of stern ruthlessness on the part of the U-boat which sent their ship to the bottom.

The ship was stopped off the Portuguese coast by two warning shots. The crew were permitted to leave in the lifeboats but they were forbidden to take anything with them. Captain Walter H. Poole, however, the master, who is a veteran of the Great War, managed to salve his binoculars. As soon as they had entered the boats, the submarine torpedoed the "Bosnia." Some of the eye-witnesses said that just before the U-boat submerged her captain bowed and saluted his victims and their doomed vessel. Fortunately a Norwegian vessel, the "Eidanger," was in the vicinity and the survivors were picked up and landed safely.

# Our Trawlers Met a U-Boat

When peacefully engaged in reaping the harvest of the sea, several British trawlers encountered German U-boats in the early days of the war. Below we print accounts of two such incidents, reprinted from the "News Chronicle" and the "Daily Herald."

"WE were steaming along in the darkness," one of the crew of the British steam trawler "Roman" said, "when suddenly lights of a vessel low down in the water were switched on.

"The mate dropped one of the wheelhouse windows and said to me: 'That's no trawler.'

"Looking through the binoculars, he asked: 'Have you ever seen a submarine?' I replied: 'Only in dock.'

"'Then take a look at this,' he replied.

"Next minute we saw the outline of a submarine.

"She was only about 150 yards away.

"To prove we were a fishing vessel, we switched on all our deck lights, but for a quarter of an hour the submarine continually 'stemmed us' (kept abreast).

"Wondering what was going to happen we kept on steaming.

"I shouted down the engine room to one of the engineers: 'Ike, come and look up here.'

"The engineer climbed the ladder and I pointed to the submarine.

"All he said was: 'Crikey, why didn't you tell me before? This is the first submarine I've seen.'

"It seemed a silly game we were playing.

"No one on the submarine hailed us and we never spoke to them, and eventually the submarine straightened out and steamed away nor'-east.

"All her lights were switched off as soon as she fell astern of us."

## I WAS THERE!

"We heaved a sigh of relief, of course, when the submarine departed, but we were too surprised by her sudden appearance to get in a panic."

OUR second story tells how seven unarmed trawlers risked destruction in order to save an eighth trawler which was menaced by a German submarine.

"All the eight vessels were fishing together," one of the skippers said when the boats returned to port. "On the horizon appeared what we thought was a fishing smack.

"Our binoculars proved it to be a submarine. Several vessels chopped away their gear and we made off. The eighth trawler broke down and fell behind. If we had left her she would probably have been sunk, so all seven of us turned round. We went back, formed an escort, and the danger was over."

# I Saw the Frenchmen Called Up

Isolated in a farm in the French mountains, the writer of this contribution, H. Pattinson Knight, turned his car England-wards through a France in the throes of mobilization. The story is reprinted from the London "Star" of September 11.

BURIED from the outside world on a farm in the heart of the Puy de Dome, miles away from the nearest town, it was only on the eve of war, by the arrival of an official to commandeer horses, that I learned of recent momentous happenings.

Motoring over the mountain track, we reached La Bourboule for more detailed information, and we were at lunch when orders for general mobilization came over the wireless.

By the time we had finished our meal, the restaurant and hotel to which it was attached were being stripped of carpets and made ready for their war-time uses: the staff was being paid off, and a full inventory being taken. Incidentally, I learned that only one teaspoon could not be accounted for!

Yet, there seemed to be no hurry. Everybody knew his or her job—both peace-time and war-time—and got on with it without any fuss. There was no flag-wagging, no cheering.

On the other hand, there was no depression, and no long faces. Everybody was saying that the job had got to be done, and, in any case, it meant the end of Hitler's régime.

The official announcement of general mobilization was made, as usual, in French towns, by the local town-crier, after beating a tattoo on a kettle-drum. The fellow at La Bourboule made use of a bicycle to get around.

On a carrier over the front wheel he had mounted his drum, and all he had to do to draw attention was to turn a little handle that controlled the drumsticks. After listening to him, the little crowds quietly dispersed without the least excitement.

The casino announced by loudspeaker that it would remain open to visitors that afternoon. It became a bigger meeting place than ever for a few hours. The terrace was crowded with people sipping their drinks, and everybody appeared eager to have a last flutter at the tables.

That night there was hardly a man of military age to be seen anywhere. They slipped away quietly, in small batches, and no one saw them set forth on their crusade.

Sketchy black-out regulations were already in force, and nobody, except officials, could use the telephone, even to ring up in their own townships.

The route chosen took us diagonally across the famous Beauce, where on our run down a fortnight earlier a sea of golden corn stretched as far as the eye could see for well over 200 miles, with an occasional vast farmstead, like an oasis in a desert of plenty.

Already, the fields had been swept bare, the corn was threshed, and in various spots emergency flying fields had sprung up overnight.

At the townships that we could not avoid, farmers were delivering up their horses, while their womenfolk carried on the land work with oxen, and often with cows. At the various points of mobilization troops grinned and yelled salutations, and waved to us when they spotted our Union Jack.

Now the roads were beginning to show evidence of the evacuation of Paris. Every few hundred yards one met cars laden to capacity with people and luggage. Bundles were tied on to the wings, mattresses covered huge packages on the roofs, and, as often as not, a cycle was tied on to the radiators.

Everybody seemed astounded to find a private car travelling in the opposite direction, until they spotted that we were British folk scurrying back home. Recognition brought joyful little tootles on sirens, to which we responded as long as we were within hearing distance.

One old fellow, as he approached us, signalled us to stop, and insisted on our drinking wine with him and his family by the roadside.

At Mantes, one street was completely blocked with horses. Officials were busy checking to make sure that every available animal had been delivered, and countrywomen were returning home in cars of ancient vintage, but of surprisingly good performance.

Yet here, as everywhere, no upheaval of life was apparent. One would have thought that everything was quite normal, that the people were carrying on the routine to which they had been accustomed for years.

Once in Northern France things began to change and progress became more difficult, with long lines of transport on the roads, and huge convoys being organized with military precision in the streets of towns to which the troops—wearing their everyday civilian clothes—were reporting.

Here, too, every bridge across river or railway was guarded by two armed sentries, and there was apparent a certain tension, a feeling of waiting for something big to happen—but waiting quite calmly, with complete confidence, mingled with a determination to get on with the job and see it through.

**The fine spirit with which the young French soldiers joined up is described in this page. Above, a troop train crowded with the flower of the youth of France moves eastward from Paris. Such scenes have been enacted all over France.**

*Photo, Wide World*

# Every War Has Its Lighter Side

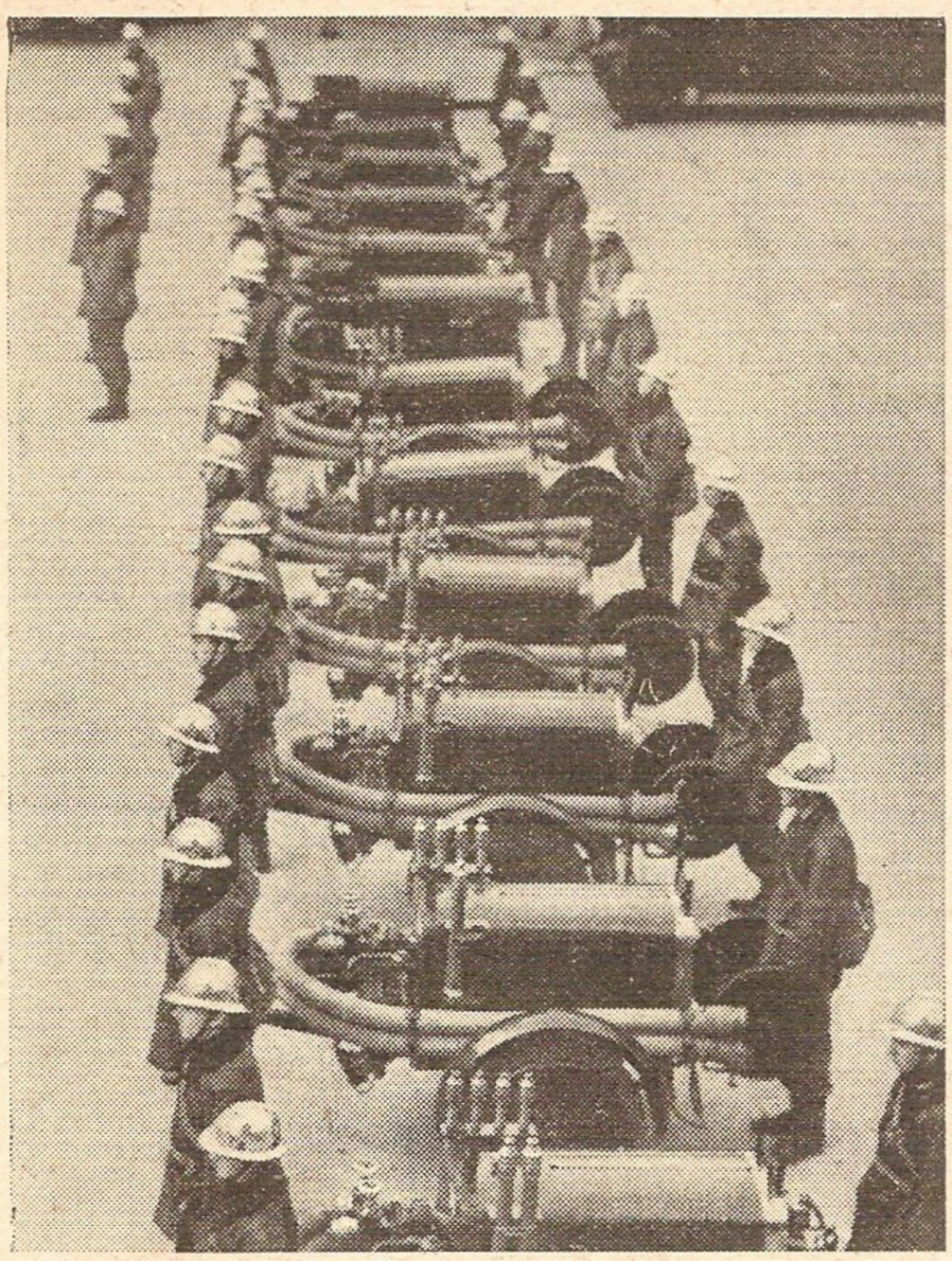
Above is one way of minimizing the disadvantage at which a black dog stands in a black-out.

This London balloon barrage team has found a really good use for Berchtesgaden as a "Funkhof."

In the middle photograph above, the Siegfried Line becomes as unsubstantial as a fried egg, while the Maginot Line shows imagination in its privacy. The Chinese gentleman above walking in London is doing his bit in the British Red Cross, but the sunshade would doubtless be discarded in an air raid. Right, an early edition of Hitler's "Mein Kampf," among other books, is being used as a substitute for sand-bags to protect the roof of a London building.

*Photos, Keystone, Central Press and "Daily Mirror"*

# In Wartime France



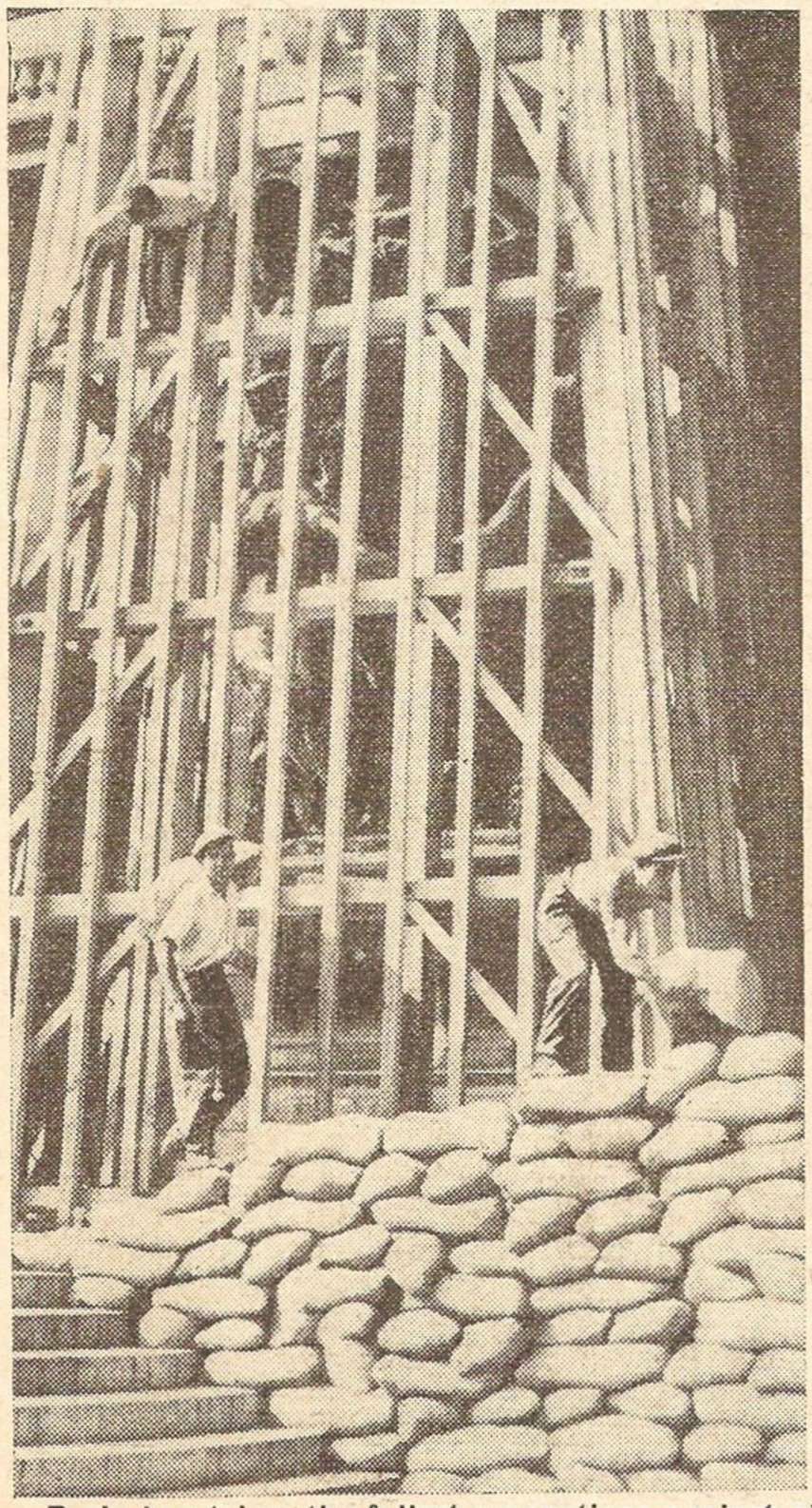
These twelve trailer fire pumps drawn up for inspection are part of the Paris A.R.P. or Defense Contre-Arienne. As in London, wartime services have been formed to deal with the results of air raids, though owing to the calls of the army most of them are over military age.

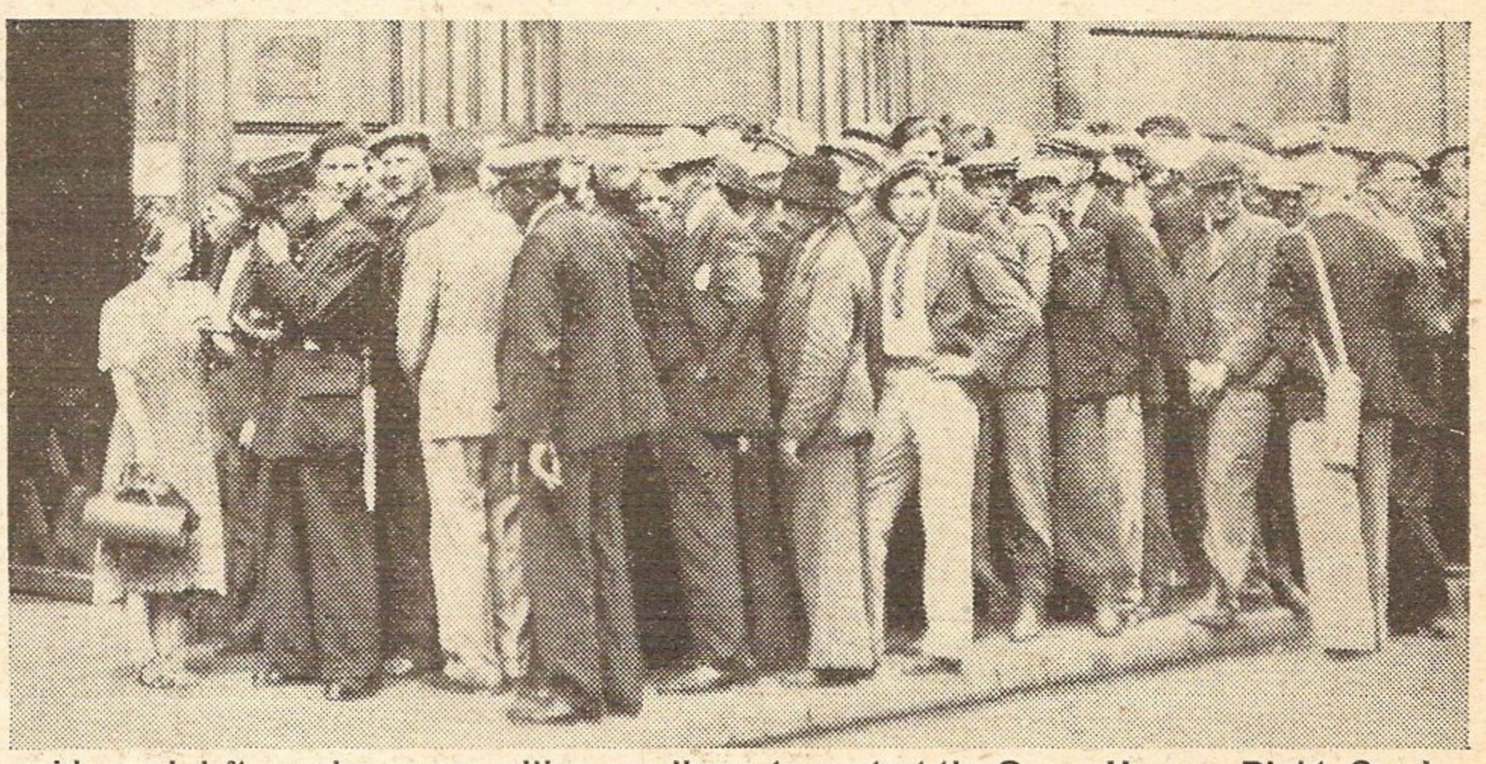
Above, French women of all ages are interviewing Mlle. Huard, head of the recruiting department for volunteers for every sort of service.

PARIS, like every other capital of the belligerent countries, is "blacked out" at night, though not so completely as London. But though the streets may be dark, Paris is not downhearted. The cafés and restaurants that are still open are almost as full as usual and conversation is animated, for French men and women love to exchange views and to hear news by word of mouth. Moreover, in times of crisis the Frenchman feels the need of the company of his fellows more than ever. Paris by day, as the photographs in this page prove, shows many signs that the country is at war; but French men and women when once their country is in danger face the future with a calm dignity, and indifference to hardship, going about their daily work unperturbed.

The complete mobilization of the army taking all men of military age has caused far more difficulties in business than in London, but Frenchwomen have filled many gaps.

Like London's girls, Parisiennes carry gas masks. Like them, too, they keep smiling, as these two mademoiselles on their way to work show.

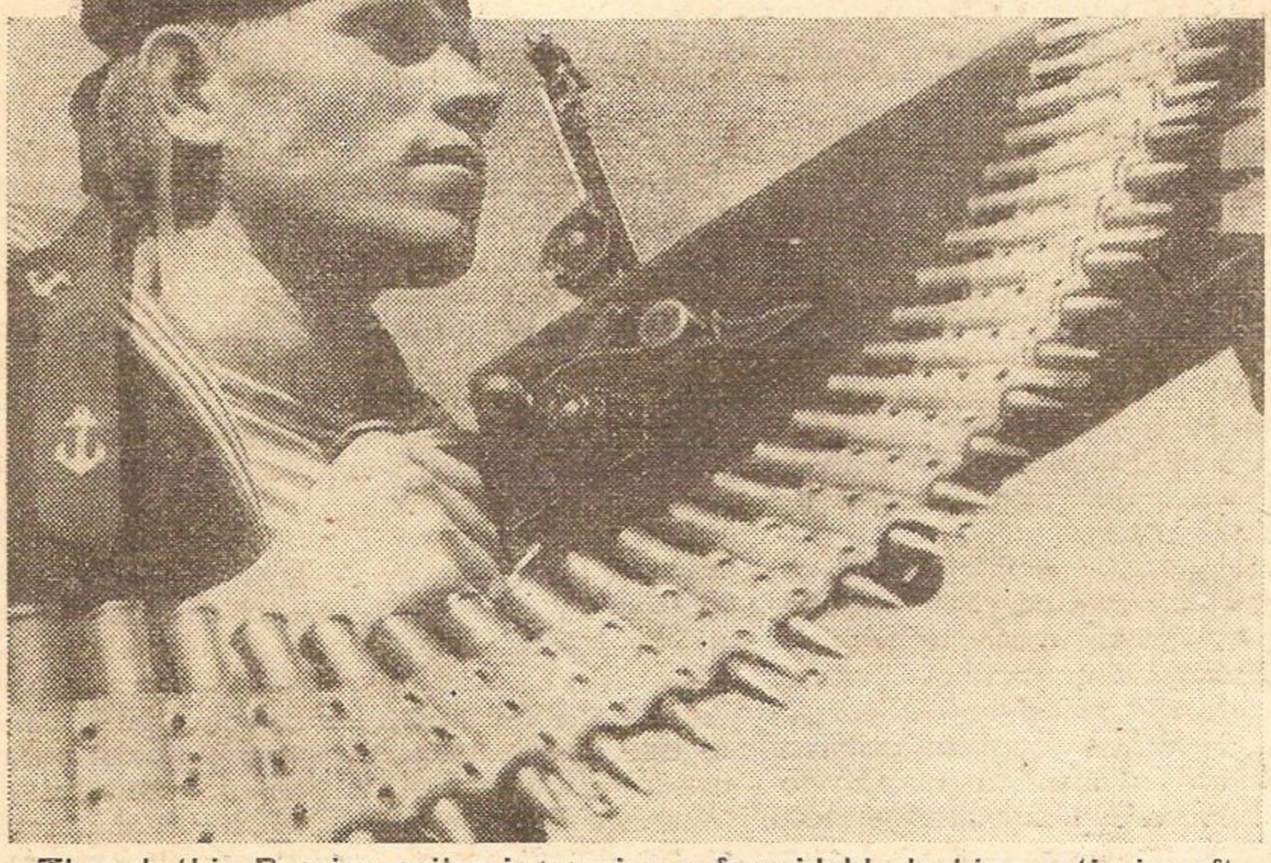




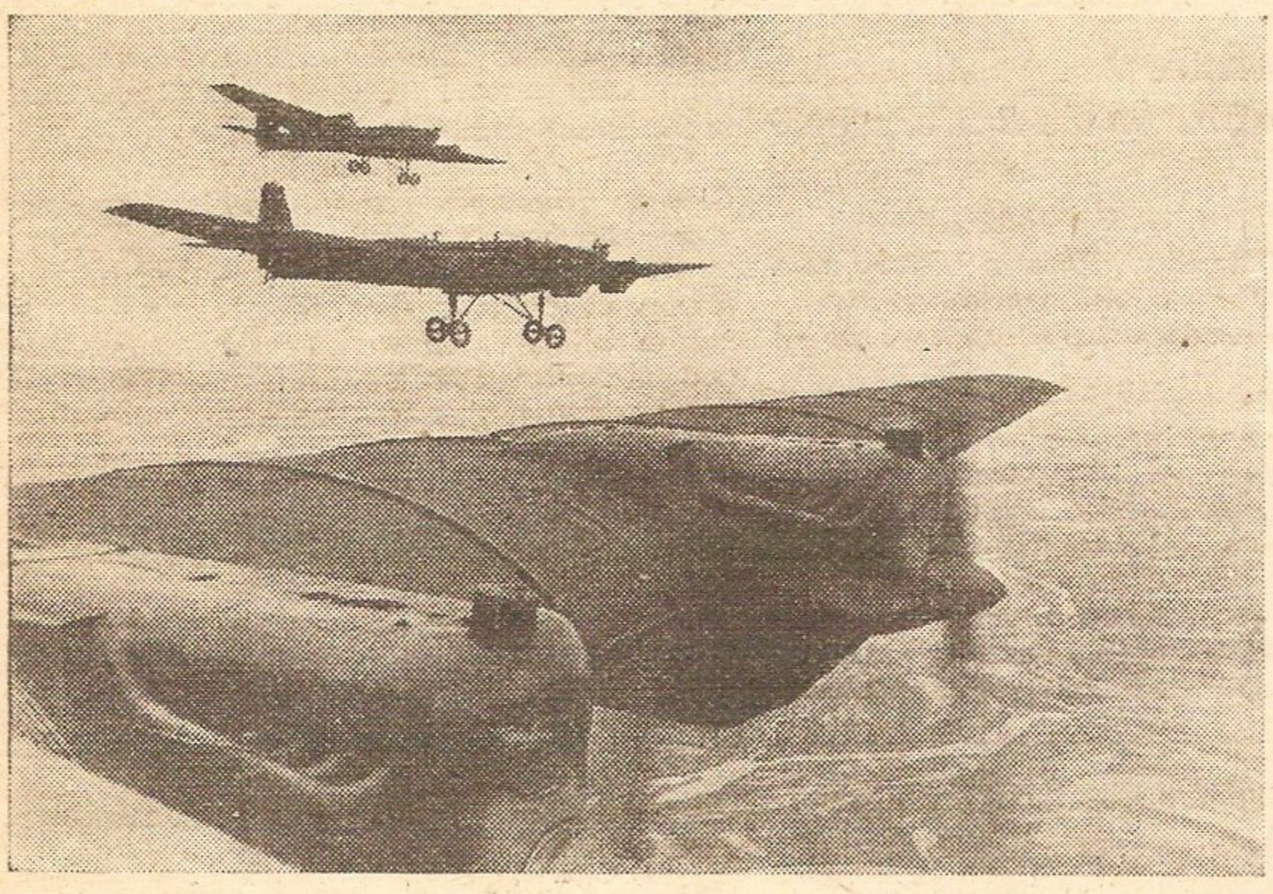
Paris has taken the fullest precautions against air raids, and, left, workmen are piling sandbags to protect the Opera House. Right, Czech refugees in Paris are lining up to enlist in the Czech Legion, so that they may strike a blow for their country's freedom.

*Photos, Topical, Wide World and Associated Press*

# Red Russia's Weight in the Scales of War



Though this Russian sailor is serving a formidable looking anti-aircraft machine-gun, the Red Fleet, with the possible exception of the submarine fleet is almost negligible. Below are bombers of the Soviet air fleet.



With fixed bayonets and machine-guns these soldiers of the Red Army are taking part in manoeuvres near Moscow. Their equipment is obviously based on the German model.

*Photos, Planet News*

THE exact numbers of the Red Army are not accurately known, but the last official figures given in January 1938 state that the strength of the army was about 1,100,000. Since then, however, there has been a considerable expansion until the total strength is now estimated at about 2,500,000. Against this number has to be set the fact that lack of railway communications and the bad state of the roads must immobilize a large proportion of the Russian forces in time of war. On paper, at least, the Russian Air Force is formidable, with its stated total of nearly 7,000 machines. As regards the Russian Navy, no battleships have been built since 1911, but reports give a good impression of the Soviet service.

On September 17 Soviet troops began the invasion of Eastern Poland, and by midnight the Red Army was more than 30 miles over the frontier. One of the first invading contingents of Red infantry is here seen marching towards the frontier.

# WORDS THAT HISTORY WILL REMEMBER

## A Select Weekly Record of the Most Important War Declarations and Statements

### Sunday, September 3

*Leaflet distributed by Royal Air Force in W. and N. Germany:*

"Deliberately and coldly the Government of the Reich has forced war upon England.

Never before has any Government driven its citizens to death on such futile pretexts. This war is perfectly unnecessary.

The soil and the rights of Germany were menaced from no side at all. Nobody hindered the reoccupation of the Rhineland, nor the completion of the Anschluss or the bloodless linking of the Sudetenland with the Reich.

Neither England nor any other Powers attempted to check the rebuilding of the Reich, so long as the Reich did not forcefully crush the independence of non-German nations.

All German demands could have been considered as long as they were justified. . . .

Instead of that your Government has sentenced you to a bath of blood, to distress, and to a war that you cannot hope to win. We have not been betrayed: you Germans have been betrayed. During many years, a reckless censorship has hidden the truth from you, a truth that even uncivilized nations knew.

We and our allies have at our disposal considerable reserves. We are too strong to be broken. We can fight against you until you are entirely exhausted. You, people of Germany, now, and at any moment, have the right to make peace. We, too, hope for peace, and we are already prepared to conclude peace with any German Government which has a sincere determination for peace."

### Monday, September 4

*General Smuts, speaking in the Parliament of the Union of South Africa:*

"General Hertzog has said this matter of Danzig is a Polish affair with which South Africa has nothing to do. But I am profoundly convinced that although Danzig and the Polish corridor were the immediate occasion of war, the real issue goes far beyond Danzig and Poland and touches South Africa.

"General Hertzog has made a statement which I regard as resembling a complete justification of Herr Hitler. I do not think that the people of the Union, in their vital interest as South Africans, could hope to justify that view. Nothing could be more fatal for South Africa, poor as it is in defence, and rich as it is in resources, to dissociate itself directly or indirectly from its friends in the Commonwealth.

"It is not only a question of loyalty and self-respect—which I assume we all feel deeply; it is a question of importance and of the deepest interest to the future of South Africa.

"If we dissociate ourselves deliberately and conspicuously from the line of action taken by the other members of the Commonwealth, we are going to get what we deserve, and the day will come—and it will not be far off—when the same treatment will be applied to us. And when the day of trouble comes—and it will come as surely as you are seated here—when the German demand for the return of South-West Africa is made at the point of the bayonet, we shall stand alone. . . ."

*Declaration by the British Labour Party to the Czecho-Slovak peoples, broadcast in their own language by secret means.*

"Being in close contact with their Czecho-Slovak friends now outside their country, the Labour Party is well aware of the sufferings of the Czecho-Slovak peoples.

"Now is the time to put an end to the brutal violence endangering all Europe. We are calling from London to Prague and Bratislava. We are calling all workers of Czecho-Slovakia.

"Remain firm. Keep your hearts strong in the new wave of violence. Remain true to the deeds and principles of the great Thomas Masaryk. The hour of your liberation is near."

### Tuesday, September 5

*Message to the Independent Labour Party from the Independent Socialists of Germany, smuggled across the frontiers at great risk to its bearers:*

"In the moment before the cannons speak, before the world faces horror and slaughter, we send our message to you. The German workers do not want this war, the German peasants do not want war.

"We love Germany, the country where we have been born and educated, but we have nothing in common with the present régime.

"In our illegal pamphlets, spread even among the fortification workers watched by the Gestapo, we have protested against the occupation of Austria against the annexation of Czecho-Slovakia, against Hitler's policy of aggression and war.

"This war is not our war, this fight is not our fight. Our common Fatherland is humanity."

### Saturday, September 9

*From the Broadcast to the British people made by the Polish Ambassador in London, Count Edward Raczynski:*

"September 1 will go down in history as a day of shame for the brutal aggressors, and as the opening of a new chapter in the life of Europe.

"Since that day my country has been incessantly battered by practically the whole of the German army and continuously bombed by its entire air force. The losses suffered by Poland in territory and economic resources are certainly great, and owing to the crushing superiority of the enemy in equipment the Polish armies did not have as yet a chance of making full use of their skill and daring of manoeuvre.

"But our resistance has not been broken. Reserves are called up, the troops are occupying new positions and the fighting goes on. The day of aggression was fixed by the enemy beforehand, with ruthless precision. It was known to be planned for the beginning of September and some excuse or other had to be found by that time. When Nazi Germany struck at Poland with all her might, Poland had no choice but to take up arms in defence of her independence.

"The one excuse invented by the fertile brain of the German Fuehrer was the alleged maltreatment of the German minority in Polish lands. The excuse is poor and the accusation a slander. All who knew the position of the German minority in Poland, small in numbers but enjoying an important status due to its money power and to the spirit of tolerance displayed by Poland, stand amazed at the impudence of German mendacity. And this impudence shows no signs of abating.

"May I take this opportunity to utter, before the whole civilized world, the most solemn protest against the calumnies with which the aggressor attempts to besmirch the good name of the Polish nation? . . .

"It seems the simplest thing that could be done to defend the homes of Poland against a cruel and unscrupulous aggressor. And yet, by doing it, Poland turned a new leaf in recent European history, for Poland was the first nation which dared to defy Hitler's challenge and meet his attack with fire. This act of courage was a great service rendered to all the free nations of the world.

"The time was bound to come when the Nazi methods of extortion would meet with strong resistance. But the fact is that Poland was the first nation to do it, and she accepted an unequal struggle rather than join the ranks of those who allowed themselves to be the victims of Nazi blackmail. . . ."

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**Third Leaflet distributed by the R.A.F. over Central Germany.** *TRANSLATION*

# WARNUNG!

## England an das deutsche Volk

Die Nazi-Regierung hat, trotz der Bemühungen der fuhrenden Großmächte, die Welt in einen Krieg gestürzt.

Dieser Krieg ist ein Verbrechen. Das deutsche Volk muß zwischen dem Vorwand, den seine Regierung benutzt, um den Krieg vom Zaun zu brechen und den Grundsätzen, die England und Frankreich zur Verteidigung Polens zwingen, ganz klar unterscheiden.

Von Anfang an hat die englische Regierung erklärt, daß an der polnischen Frage nichts ist, was einen europäischen Krieg mit allen seinen tragischen Folgen rechtfertigen kann.

Fünf Monate nach dem Münchener Vertrag wurde die Selbstständigkeit der Tschechoslovakei brutal zertreten. Wenn Polen nicht auch von dem gleichen Schicksal erreicht werden soll, dann mußten wir darauf bestehen, daß friedliche Verhandlungsmethoden nicht durch Gewaltandrohungen unmöglich gemacht werden, daß die zu treffende Abmachung die Lebensrechte Polens gewährleistet und auch ehrlich gehalten wird. Ein Diktat konnten wir weder zulassen noch annehmen.

Wenn Herr Hitler glaubte, die englische Regierung werde aus Angst vor dem Kriege die Polen im Stich lassen, so hat er sich schwer getäuscht. Erstens bricht England sein einmal gegebenes Wort nicht. Außerdem ist es aber Zeit, der brutalen Gewalt, die die Nazi-Regierung der Welt aufzwingen will, ein deutliches Halt zu bieten.

Mit diesem Krieg stellt sich der Reichskanzler gegen den unbeugsamen Willen der englischen Regierung, einen Willen, hinter dem nicht nur die gesamten Hilfsquellen und Mittel des englischen

WARNING

England to the German People

The Nazi régime has, in spite of the endeavours of the leading great Powers, plunged the world into war.

This war is a crime. The German people must quite clearly distinguish between the pretexts employed by its government so as to unleash war and the principles which have forced England and France to defend Poland.

From the very beginning the English government has made it clear that the Polish question is not one which can justify a European war with all its tragic consequences.

Five months after the Munich Agreement the independence of Czecho-Slovakia was brutally trodden underfoot. So that Poland shall not also suffer the same fate, we must insist that peaceful methods of negotiation shall not be rendered impossible through threats of force, and that in the negotiations which are requisite the Poles' right to live must be guaranteed and honourably kept. We cannot accept or admit a Diktat.

If Herr Hitler believes that the English government, out of fear of war, will allow the Poles to be left in the lurch, then he has been deceiving himself. In the first place England will not break her pledged word. Furthermore, it is high time that the brutal force with which the Nazi régime strives to dominate the World should be halted.

Through this war the German Chancellor places himself against the unbending resolution of the English government, a resolution which has behind it not only the resources and means of the whole English Commonwealth, but also a union of other great Powers. It is a question of the salvation of human freedom and the right of free peoples to live free.

Up to the very last moment the Pope, the President of the United States and the King of the Belgians, in the name of Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland, made fruitless appeals to your Nazi government, urgently requesting that negotiations should be chosen in the place of war.

Now a catastrophe has broken out upon you in that the Reich finds itself isolated from the community of civilised peoples, without any support save that of Communist Russia.

You cannot win this war. Against you are arrayed resources and materials far greater than your own.

For years you have been subjected to the most stringent censorship, and by means of an incredible system of secret police and informers the truth has been withheld from you.

Against you stands the united strength of the free peoples, who with open eyes will fight for freedom to the last.

This war is as repulsive to us as it is to you, but do not forget that England, once forced into war, will wage it unwaveringly to the end. England's nerves are strong, her resources inexhaustible. We will not relent.

# End of a Glorious Stand

No more gallant stand has ever been made in the history of warfare than that of the garrison of the Polish fort of Westerplatte on the outskirts of Danzig, where a handful of Poles withstood furious attacks by land forces and bombardment by the battleship Schleswig-Holstein for six days. Some idea of what they endured can be gathered from the photograph (left) and that below (right).

Above, the Nazi flag is flying, over the shattered remains of the fort at Westerplatte after the surrender.

The name of Major Koscianski, seen above, who commanded the Polish garrison at Westerplatte will stand in the roll of Poland's heroic soldiers.

Left are Polish prisoners just after surrendering to the captain of the Schleswig-Holstein, seen at their head. Above, German soldiers are examining the havoc they have wrought.

*Photos, Associated Press, Keystone and Central News*

# GOERING'S COLD CHEER FOR NAZIS

Designated by Hitler as heir-apparent to the Leadership of the Reich, Marshal Goering's pronouncements may be taken as a true reflection of the official Nazi standpoint. Here is his first war-time speech.

NOT long ago Goering told the German people that they could not have both guns and butter. . . . When he addressed the workers in an armament factory in Berlin on September 9 he had to tell them in effect that now the guns were going off there would be still harder times for the German people.

He began his speech with an almost plaintive reference to Britain, which had come to the support of Poland—" a little State that has been inflated in the last few years as one blows up ridiculous little rubber figures." He went on :

" We have never harmed British interests. We have even recognized her dominion over a fifth of the world. But really England is not in the least concerned with Poland. The Poles are to them of as little interest as perhaps the Turks. For Britain there is nothing important in the world but herself.

" What is the situation in Poland, the scene of war ? The Polish army will never emerge again from the German embrace. We can hope that within 14 days of beginning the chief things will be achieved, and in a few weeks more the last work of cleaning up will be finished. We estimate that the whole campaign to the last clearing up will not last more than four weeks.

" If the British aeroplanes fly at tremendous heights at night and drop their ridiculous propaganda on German territory, I have nothing against it. But take care if the leaflets are succeeded by one bomb. Then reprisals will follow and will be carried out as in Poland . . .

" Germany, they say, is mortally vulnerable in the economic and internal spheres. When I started the Four-Year Plan I did it with the object of forming a protection that cannot be defeated, and today I can say that Germany is the best armed State in the world. We possess all that we need to defeat our enemies. They have more gold, copper, and lead, but we have more workers, more men. That is decisive. And our production of aeroplanes and guns is still far greater than that of our enemies . . .

### Nazi Ideas of Honourable Peace

" You (Mr. Chamberlain) cannot doubt the will for peace of the German people. It is great and deep and the peace-will of the Fuehrer is very deep. We wish for peace and are ready for peace. It rests with you, Mr. Chamberlain. Will you give the word for life or death ? Then give it and we will take the offer. But never again shall there be a Versailles. We are ready for an honourable peace, but we will fight to the utmost if there is no peace.

### " I Know Things Will Get Worse "

" I know there are many things that will get worse. There is, for example, the question of substitute materials. I admit that the suit of substitute material is not so good as a real one, especially since we have made the latest fibre from potato plant. But that is not the point. It is no longer a question of the life of the individual but of the nation. I know that war soap is not as good as peace soap and often there is no soap at all. But then we must just have dirty hands . . .

" I can understand how depressed many of you are when you think of the World War. And many say that it will be the same again as it was then. But the situation is not the same . . .

" I must ask hard and difficult sacrifices of you. You must understand that it cannot be otherwise. You must also understand that at the beginning everything does not go as well as it should. The most important thing is bread, and we have seen to it that there is enough. Of meat, it can be said that we eat far too much of it in any case. With less meat we shall get thinner and so need less material for a suit. That is an advantage.

" You shall always be told the truth in this war. Maybe that at the front there is a serious reverse—that must not be hidden from you. If listening to foreign radio stations is heavily punished, it is not because we fear them but because it is dishonourable to listen to the dirty tirades of foreign countries . . .

" We are prepared for an acceptable peace and equally determined to fight to the last under the Leader, who for many years has raised up the German people. Shall we be parted from such a Leader at the wish of Great Britain ? It is too monstrous to speak of it. We want peace, but peace at the price of our Leader is not to be thought of. To destroy our Leader is to destroy the German nation. Germany is Hitler, and Hitler is Germany."

### Germany's Bankrupt Policy

REPLYING to this tirade, the British Ministry of Information said that in official circles it is regarded that Goering's speech revealed the bankruptcy of Nazi policy. It read :

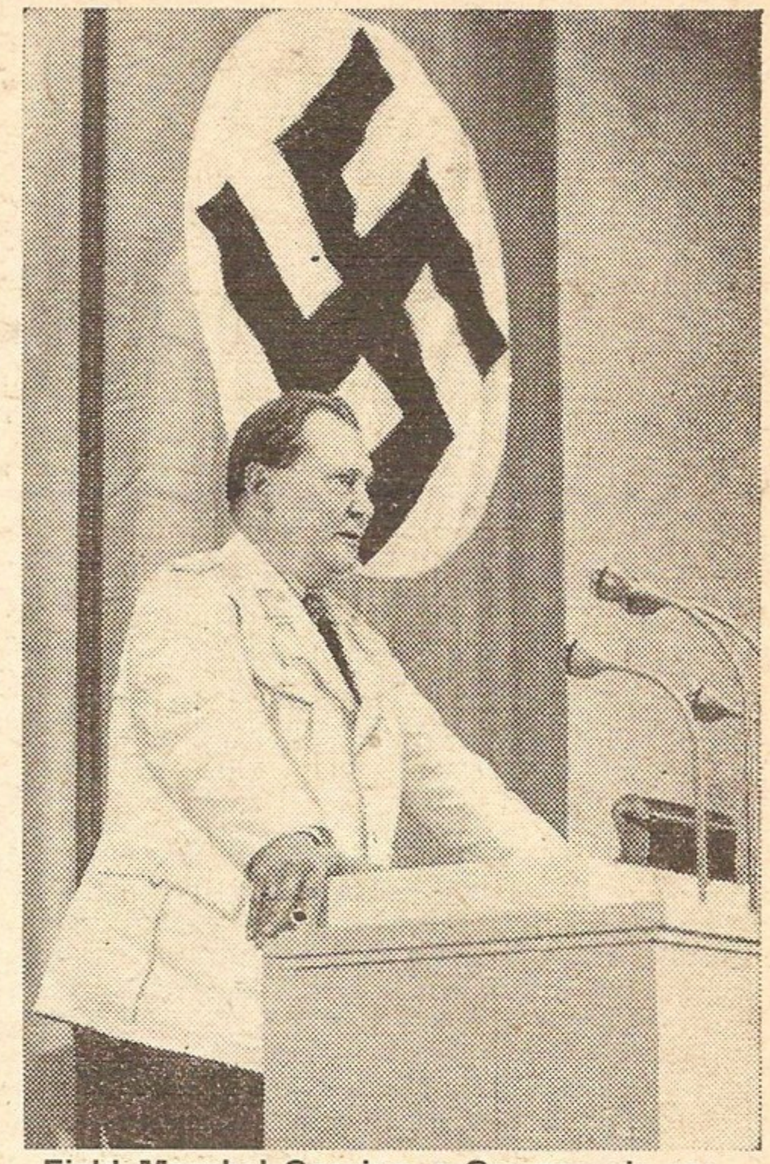
" It is considered in official circles that Field-Marshal Goering's speech revealed the bankruptcy of German policy.

" Herr Hitler has made many promises to foreign countries : none of them has been kept.

" It is therefore not surprising that no confidence is placed in any assurance he may give, and Great Britain is therefore justified in requiring that peace should be concluded with a German Government whose word may be trusted.

" But the German Government has also misled the German people who were promised ' peace and honour.' They have not got peace because the German Government has deliberately pursued a policy of violence which has made war inevitable. They have not got honour because the world recognizes the crudity and falseness of the German Government's charges against Poland.

" The ' sickening technique,' as the Prime Minister called it, has become too familiar.



**Field-Marshal Goering, a German air-ace, is head of the Nazi Council of Six.**

*Photo, Associated Press*

" Great Britain is fighting for a return to decency in international relations. Until this is achieved no country is safe. Germany may say that she has no aims in the West, but the tale of limited German territorial ambitions has been told too often to inspire the slightest confidence.

" Great Britain does not desire another Versailles, as Field-Marshal Goering falsely alleges, nor the collapse of Germany, but a just and enduring peace with any honourable German Government.

" As regards the economic situation, Field-Marshal Goering's remarks can have brought little comfort to his hearers, who already, even before the outbreak of war, have been reduced to such meagre rations.

" What is to be said of a Government which frivolously embarks on an unnecessary war in economic conditions the gravity of which even Field-Marshal Goering's optimism does not venture to conceal from an audience which is only too well aware of the facts ? "

## *It Is Said That . . .*

There is growing German anxiety at the apparently early failure of their air force. Rapidly-mounting casualty lists and the few 'planes which return after raids on France are making a profound impression in Berlin.

It is being realized that many German pilots are too young and inexperienced. From Washington comes a statement that Germany is killing at least three pilots under training each week. (*Reuter*)

In Western Germany the words " Heil, Hitler ! " are rapidly going out as a greeting. People are going back to the pre-Nazi salutation of " Gruss Gott ! "

At Aachen, Cologne, and Crefeld, travellers said that the police have had to disperse angry food queues ; at Aachen and Düsseldorf they broke up groups of women and children demonstrating against the departure of soldiers for the Front.

In Germany salaries are being reduced and no overtime is paid for night or Sunday work. Residents must make room for refugees, and are advised to feed rabbits and goats on materials left over from the kitchen.

Berlin tailors have issued a manifesto asking the population to hunt up old clothes capable of being refashioned.

According to a report from Panama, the German cargo boat *Eisenbach*, 4,177 tons, sailed from Corinto, the principal seaport of Nicaragua, on the Pacific coast. Gun ports—holes for guns—had been cut with oxy-acetylene apparatus. Other German ships, it is stated, are being fitted out as privateers in ports on the west coast of South and Central America.

A feature of the German offensive on the Western Front is the use of machine-guns operated electrically by remote control.

Under a decree published by the Ministerial Council for the Reich Defence, any person committing robbery, larceny or violence under cover of a black-out or an air-raid warning will be liable to sentences ranging from long terms of imprisonment to death.

Americans arriving in Copenhagen from Berlin were partially stripped at the frontier. The women were made to remove stockings, shoes, dresses and other garments. All luggage was inspected minutely, even sticks of shaving soap being taken from their cases.

A crowded theatre repeatedly hissed the scenes of German troops marching victoriously through Belgium in the Great War when the film " Nurse Edith Cavell " was given its first presentation in Washington.

# Sound and Fury Against Britain

**On September 9, Field-Marshal Goering, speaking in a Berlin armament factory, devoted some of his speech to some criticism and harsh words of Britain and her Prime Minister. He mingled defiance with pleas for peace, but warned the German people that they must be prepared to make "hard and difficult sacrifices."**

*Photo, Keystone*

# OUR DIARY OF THE WAR

## *Monday, September 11*

German attack on Warsaw checked; attacking troops retired to outskirts. Polish broadcasts continued from the capital in spite of Nazi interference on the same wavelength. In the south of Poland the German advance aimed at Lwow was held up.

French attacks made substantial progress on a 12-mile front east of the Saar. There were bayonet charges by the French in the sector between Merzig, 22 miles south of Trier, and the Moselle, and air raids on troop concentrations behind the Siegfried Line.

It was reported that R.A.F. 'planes carried out a raid early on September 9 on the island of Sylt, site of a big German air base, off the west coast of Schleswig-Holstein.

The Polish Government moved their headquarters to Brzesc-Litewski (Brest-Litovsk), 115 miles east of Warsaw.

The King opened the fund of the British Red Cross and Order of St. John with a gift of £5,000.

The British Government issued, through the Ministry of Information, a declaration of policy, in which it was stated that Britain would make peace only with a German Government whose word could be trusted, and that therefore no peace was possible with Hitler.

A message to India from the King-Emperor was read by the Viceroy to the Central Legislature in Simla.

## *Tuesday, September 12*

A meeting of the Supreme War Council was held in France, attended by Mr. Chamberlain and Lord Chatfield for Great Britain, and M. Daladier and General Gamelin for France.

The French made further progress in their advance in the region of the Saar. There was a strong reaction by the enemy.

British troops received a warm welcome in France. It was reported that R.A.F. contingents had been stationed in France for some time.

The Poles took advantage of the pause in the German attack on Warsaw to consolidate their principal lines of defence. The main German force was held up at Modlin, on the north bank of the Vistula, 15 miles from the capital. Other German attacks in Poland were to the north-east, towards Bialystok, and from the south across the San River.

The German High Command claimed that Polish troops trapped in the area west of the Vistula had failed to break through, and that the equipment of four Polish divisions had been captured.

A German submarine stopped and searched the American freighter "Wacosta" off the coast of Ireland.

Four more British cargo vessels were reported sunk by U-boats, namely, "Inverliffey," "Firby," "Blairlogie" and "Gartavon." A Finnish barque, "Olivebank," was sunk by a drifting mine in the North Sea.

It was announced that, owing to doubts about the permanence of neutrality, almost all German residents in Eire had left for Germany.

## *Wednesday, September 13*

The German High Command announced that, in order to crush civilian resistance, open towns and villages in Poland will henceforth be bombed and shelled.

Lord Halifax stated in the House of Lords that if such action were taken by the Germans, the British Government would hold themselves free "to take such action as they might deem appropriate."

According to statements issued by the Polish Embassy in London and by the American Ambassador in Poland, German aeroplanes have for some time been bombing civilians in Poland.

German advance on Warsaw still held up, but encircling movements were made round the Polish position. Attacks on Modlin and Lwow had been repulsed, but east of Warsaw Polish forces had withdrawn under heavy pressure.

Paris reported that French troops had improved the whole of the positions taken in the course of the last few days.

French War Cabinet was formed, with M. Daladier as Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and War Minister.

Mr. Chamberlain gave Parliament a second survey of the progress of the War.

It was reported from Brussels that Hitler had issued an appeal to all doctors, engineers and other technical experts, whatever their race, who had fled from Germany, to return, with the promise that fortunes confiscated from such refugees would be restored.

## *Thursday, September 14*

Germany claimed to have captured Gdynia and to be making rapid progress in the encircling of Warsaw. Polish reinforcements were hurried to Lwow, where the enemy's aim is to seize important oilfields and to cut communications with Rumania.

The French launched a new offensive on the extreme north of the common frontier with Germany. There was also a heavy artillery duel in the region of Saarbruecken.

Two British merchant ships, "Vancouver City" and "British Influence," sunk.

The official Kremlin organ, "Pravda" attributed what it termed Poland's "military débâcle" mainly to her brutal oppression of her minorities, especially the Polish Ukrainians and the White Russians.

In the House of Commons Mr. Chamberlain stated that no British Government would ever resort to deliberate attacks on women and children for the mere purpose of terrorism.

Lord Halifax announced in the House of Lords that the British Government had received a notification from the German Government that it would for the duration of the War observe the Geneva protocol prohibiting the use of poison gas and bacteriological methods of warfare.

## *Friday, September 15*

A Polish communiqué declared that an attack on Lwow by German motorised forces had been repulsed. German troops crossed the frontier from East Prussia near Suvalki. The Germans claimed to have surrounded Warsaw; also to have occupied most of the Polish oilfields.

Poland stated that Germany had begun a ruthless campaign of bombing open towns.

On the Western Front a strong French force reached the outposts of the Siegfried Line.

It was reported that the situation in Palestine had markedly improved since the outbreak of war, and that Jews and Arabs were co-operating against the common danger.

The Australian Cabinet decided to raise immediately an initial volunteer force of 20,000 for service in Australia or overseas.

The Ministry of Information announced that vast seizures of goods intended for Germany, including 28,000 tons of petroleum, had been made by the British Contraband Control.

## *Saturday, September 16*

Germany claimed to have captured Przemysl and Bialystok. The struggle for Warsaw and Brest-Litovsk continued.

French troops advanced still farther on the 40-mile front from Luxemburg frontier to 12 miles east of Saarbruecken.

A Soviet-Japanese armistice on the Manchukuo-Mongolia frontier was arranged in Moscow.

Four vessels—"Fanad Head," "Davara," "Rudyard Kipling" and "Cheyenne"—sunk by U-boats. The Belgian steamer "Alex van Opstal" was sunk near Weymouth by either a submarine or a mine dropped by an enemy minelayer.

## *Sunday, September 17*

Soviet troops invaded Poland without warning along the whole length of the frontier, ostensibly to protect the population of Western Ukraine and Western White Russia. A Note to this effect was handed to the Polish Ambassador in Moscow, and copies of the Note to the representatives of all States with which Russia maintains diplomatic relations. A broadcast later from Moscow repeated this declaration of "protection," and added that the invasion of Poland would open a new road for the world-wide triumph of the Communist creed.

The Polish front collapsed under crushing German attacks. Germany claimed to have taken Brest-Litovsk. The Polish Government was stated to have removed to Kuty, near the Rumanian frontier; some members of it crossed into Rumania.

Germany presented terms for the surrender of Warsaw.

German attacks on the Western frontier were repulsed with loss. The French High Command recorded the arrival of large German reinforcements from Poland.

## OUR WAR GAZETTEER

**Brzesc-Litewski** (*Bjest-Litev-ski*). Town on r. Bug, 100 miles E. of Warsaw; pop. 50,000. Known also as Brest-Litovsk, this name was given to treaty signed here, March 3, 1918, between Germany and Russia.

**Bug** (*Boog*). Polish river. Rises near Lwow in S.E., passes through Brzesc-Litewski, and joins Vistula 21 miles below Warsaw; of great strategic importance in defence of that city. 440 miles long.

**Bydgoszcz** (*Bid-goshts*). The former German Bromberg. Polish city and trade centre on main lines of communication, at gateway to Corridor; pop. 137,000.

**Lodz** (*Wodj*). Poland's second city, 73 miles S.W. of Warsaw; growth due to textile industry; severely damaged in Great War; pop. 665,000.

**Lwow** (*Lvov*). Polish city, the German Lemberg (former capital of Austrian Silesia). The commercial centre of the S.E.; held by Russians, 1914-15; pop. today, 318,000.

**Narew** (*Narev*). Polish river, part of the natural defence system of the country; rises in the N.E. and flows 200 miles to join the Bug 18 miles N. of Warsaw.

**Neunkirchen** (*Noyn-kirch-en*). Town in the Saarland, Germany, immediately N.E. of Saarbruecken; great ironworks and coal trade; scene of disastrous gasometer explosion in February, 1933; pop. 39,000.

**Przemysl** (*Pjemishl*). Polish town on r. San, 60 miles W. of Lwow; scene of continual fighting in Great War when it was Austrian fortress; pop. 51,000.

**Sylt.** German fortified island in N. Frisian group, lying immediately off W. end of Danish frontier; connected to mainland by Hindenburg Dam; 39 sq. m.

**Vistula.** (German Weichsel). Poland's greatest river. Rises in extreme S.W. of country; flows 630 miles N. through Krakow, Warsaw, Plock, Torun; enters Baltic at Danzig.

# ODD FACTS ABOUT THE WAR

### Looking for the War

During the London school evacuation, one small boy from Whitechapel struggled, very heavily laden, out of Aylesbury station, and said to a member of the reception committee : " Which is the way to the War ? "

(*Evening News.*)

### Women Warriors

Poland has the strongest women's organization in the world, comprising 2,000,000 members. Polish women are organized in the " Przysposobienie Wojskowe Kobiet," under the Polish heroine, Maria Wittek. It was she who conducted the Polish women who fought alongside the men of the Polish Legion in 1914. She was awarded the " Virtutis Militaris," the Polish Victoria Cross, and when the Great War was over founded the Voluntary Women Warriors' Association.

(*Evening News*)

### Death for Gossip-mongers

A new German decree provides the penalty of death for those who spread gossip and rumours.

### Gratitude

A Czecho-Slovakian woman of 79, living in Beckenham, offered her services to the hospital there. " I don't mind what it is, but please can I help England ? " she asked. " I can wash dishes, or make beds, or do anything any other woman can." Her name was entered on the list of volunteers.

### The Reason Why

A story that has come my way is of recent Polish manœuvres attended by foreign military attachés. The German attaché expressed surprise at the extent of the mechanisation of the Polish army in view of the bad condition of the roads in Poland. " Ah, yes," replied a Polish general, " but, you see, the roads are very good in Germany."

(Autolycus, in *Sunday Times*)

### Secret Casualty Lists

According to the Berlin special correspondent of the Danish paper, *Berlingske Tidende*, who was visiting Saarbruecken, the German authorities are withholding publication of lists of German casualties in Poland. He states that all the relations of the German dead have been informed, but have been ordered on no account to tell outsiders or wear mourning.

### The Enchanted Orchard

A farmer in Sussex said that children billeted at his farm stared with enchanted surprise at the fruit-laden apple-trees. It was the first time they had seen apples actually growing, and when one was given permission to pick one, there was a regular raid on the orchard.

(*Star*)

### Unwilling Soldiers

A New York broadcast reports that German soldiers facing the French along the French-German frontier have put roughly-written notes on their concrete pill-boxes reading, " We will not shoot until you do."

### Offers to Polish Army

The Polish Embassy in London has received many applications from British citizens in the United Kingdom and Eire who wish to volunteer for war service with the Polish army.

### Hitler Helps British Red Cross

The most successful German author of today is Adolf Hitler. " Mein Kampf," the sales of which have been for some years a literary barometer of international stress, has been one of the best sellers of 1939. Hitler's British publishers have announced that they intend to give all royalties from the sale of " Mein Kampf " since the beginning of the war to the British Red Cross Society and St. John Ambulance Association.

(Autolycus in *Sunday Times*, September 10)

### " Heil Hitler " Drug

The mass suggestion of a phrase that has apparently become meaningless by constant repetition is terrific in its power. One cannot have a more convincing example of this than the way the German nation has drugged itself into a belief in the infallibility of their Fuehrer by the incessant repetition of " Heil Hitler."

(A Wimpole Street Specialist, in *Evening News*, September 8)

### " Big Bears "

" Big Bears " is a new game for children popularised by Leicester air raid wardens. Children put on their gas masks and romp with grown-ups, getting used to the mask as the game goes on.

### In Order of Value ?

To save cellulose, Italian newspapers are to be limited to four pages, humorous magazines to six pages, cinema reviews to twelve, and other periodicals to be reduced by one-third.

(*Sunday Times*, September 10)

### New Forest Zebras

Because of an increase of accidents to New Forest wild ponies caused by motorists being unable to see them during the black-out, the Commoners Defence Association proposes that the ponies should be painted with white stripes.

### French Comedian Inspires Troops

Tall, horse-faced Fernandel, France's most popular comedian, has often played the part of the bewildered buck private in the army. Now he is playing it in real life in a front line fortress on the Franco-Italian frontier. He is the most popular man in the garrison. When the company captain asked the soldiers if they had any complaints, Fernandel pulled a long face, stretched out his hands blistered from swinging a pick, and asked for a job as a colonel. The men roared and the captain fled back to his quarters to preserve his dignity.

(*Evening Standard* correspondent)

### Wireless in the Clubs

The war has already broken down one inhibition in the clubs. Wireless is no longer confined to the servants' quarters. The Service clubs now have loud-speakers in the principal rooms.

### How They Dodge the Navy

German merchant ships' captains are resorting to every kind of expedient to avoid capture. When the 5,165-ton Hamburg-Amerika liner " Freiburg " arrived at Trondhjem she had the name " Ebro " painted on her side instead of her real name. To avoid being stopped when entering Trondhjem fjord, she had hoisted the quarantine flag—which she lowered as soon as she entered harbour.

(Oslo correspondent of *Daily Herald*)

### Toujours La Politesse

A member of the Police Reserve, on duty for the first time, roused a London household one night to point out an inadequately darkened window. This was remedied. Politely he took his leave, apologising for having had to draw the householder's attention to the matter. With equal politeness the householder remarked that he, too, had something to point out. The temporary policeman was wearing his helmet back to front.

(" Peterborough " in *Daily Telegraph*)

### " Remarkable Warfare "

The Copenhagen newspaper *Berlingske Tidende* reported that the people of Berlin are discussing with amazement the dropping of propaganda leaflets by British aeroplanes, declaring it to be the most remarkable form of warfare yet adopted. In German official circles attempts are being made to minimise their effect, and it is contended that the contents are unlikely to influence Germans.

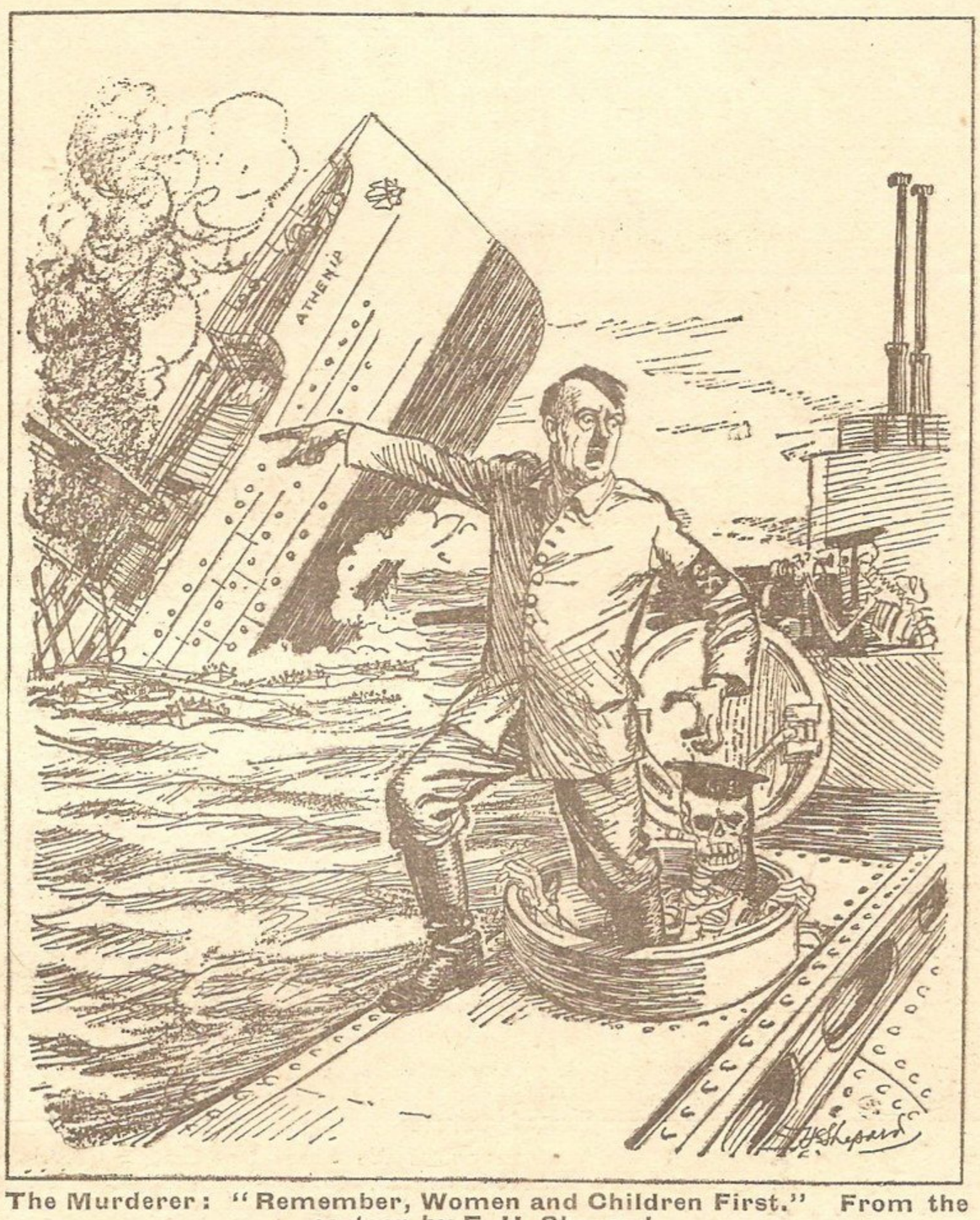
(*Daily Telegraph*, September 6)

### German Captain's Gratitude

The British Legation in Montevideo, Uruguay, stated that the captain and other members of the crew of the German steamer " Olinda," which was sunk, have given a pledge not to participate in the War. The captain expressed gratitude at the manner in which he and the crew had been treated on board the British steamer " San Gerardi."

### British Guiana Helps

The British Guiana Legislature have approved a bill banning the export of bauxite, petrol, sugar, rice, timber and other products except by licence. The aim of the Bill is to conserve supplies in the colony and to prevent indirect shipment of supplies to the enemy.




**The Murderer : " Remember, Women and Children First." From the cartoon by E. H. Shepard.**

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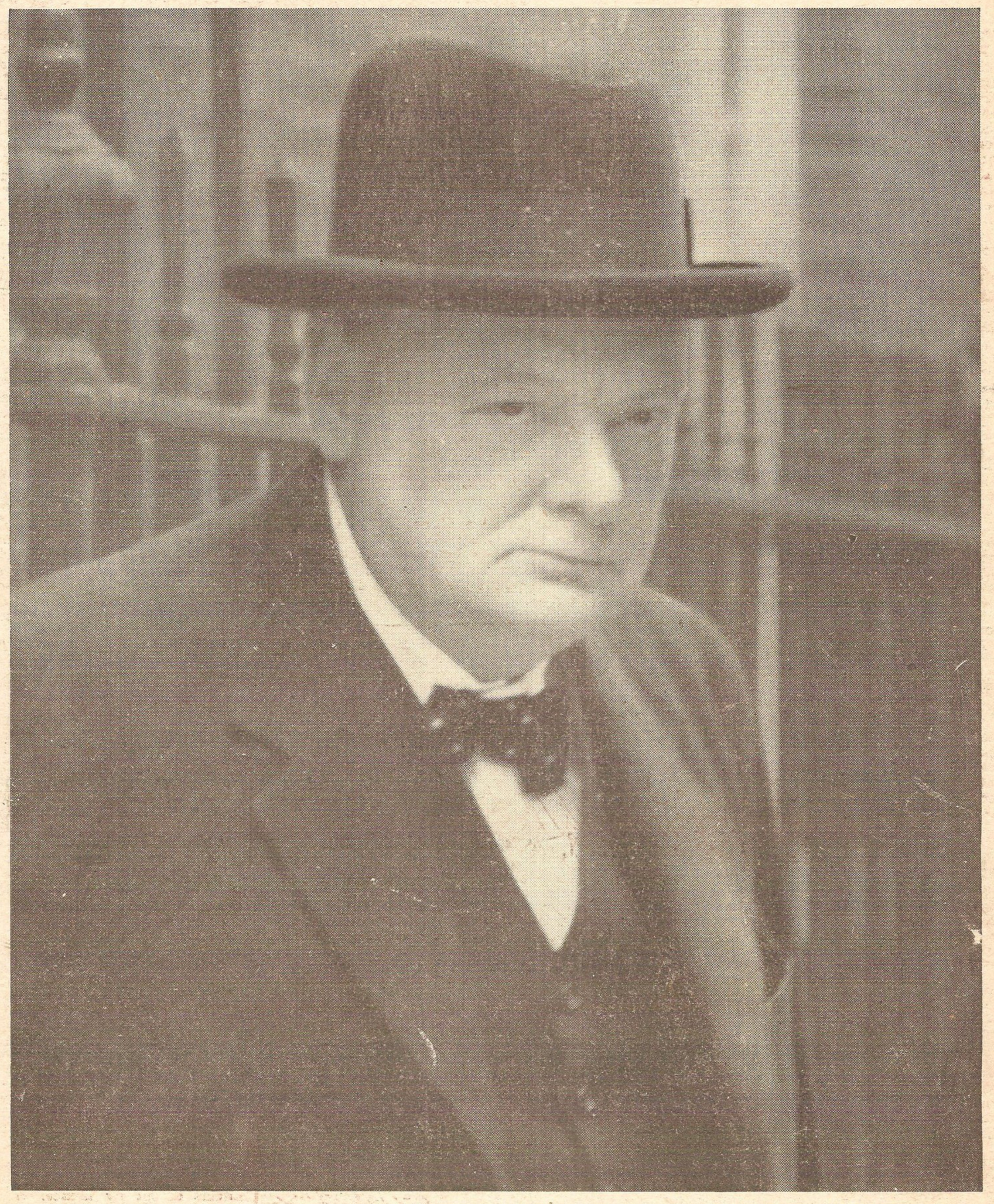
September 30th, 1939. S.S.

# Our War Album.—3. Mr. Winston Churchill



*Winston Churchill* His appointment to be First Lord of the Admiralty met with the approval of the whole nation. Mr. Churchill held the office with marked success from 1911 to 1915 and he has the complete confidence of the Royal Navy.